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INTELLIGENCE









REPORT THAT BUS!

The SFMTA's commuter shuttle pilot program is off to a rocky start. Its commuter shuttle report

website is supposed to be a portal for people to report tech buses who flout the rules, but it's been plagued with technical snafus and spinning wheels of doom. Taking matters into their own hands, housing activists who have formally challenged the program swooped in to create a tech shuttle Tumblr blog, "Look at This Tech Bus!" Head to http://lookatthistechbus.tumblr.com for more.

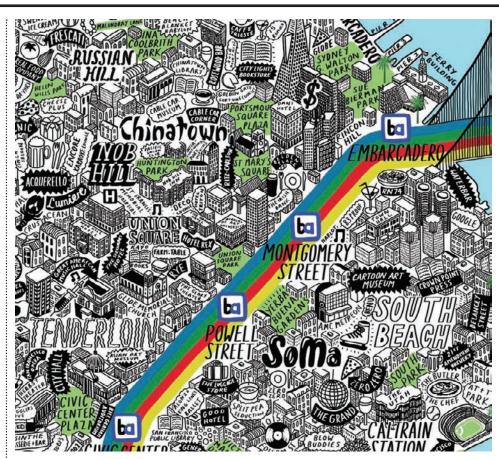


DRAG QUEENS VS. FACEBOOK

A strange new Facebook policy that insists users of the social media site use their legal names on their personal profiles has angered some very loud constituents: drag queens. A "#MyNamels" online movement and planned protest led by performers Sister Roma, Heklina, Lil Miss Hot Mess, and many more who believe that the policy can lead to stalking, gender discrimination, and possible violence (not to mention a distinct lack of fun) has yielded a positive result — as we go to press, representatives from Facebook are meeting with several drag queens about the policy. The meeting was brokered by Sup. David Campos, who said, "Facebook may not be aware that for many members of the LGBT community the ability to self-identify is a matter of health and safety."

ART + DISRUPTION

Artist and activist Leslie Drever turned up outside TechCrunch Disrupt, a hyped-up tech startup event, dressed in costume as a server with a cart but peddling highly unusual fare: Bricks. Representing a mid-Market eviction, they were etched with dedications: "For the 98-year old who is being evicted from her home of 50 years by real estate speculators," read one. "For love not money," read another. "The bricks were actually for sale," Dreyer explained in a blog post. Prices varied: "A minimum wage earner with few assets could buy one for \$10.74." she explained, "while Mark Zuckerberg would have to pay \$1.6 million (his estimated hourly earnings)."



Illustrator Jenni Sparks has come out with a detailed, hand-drawn "culture map" of San Francisco. With a nod to essential landmarks such as Taqueria Cancun, Hippie Hill, and Golden Gate Fortune Cookies, Sparks' map is the fourth in a series that also mapped New York, London, and Berlin.



WE HEART REGGIE WATTS

We've always loved Reggie Watts, the talented musician/comedian/ savant who headlined last weekend's Tour de Fat in Golden Gate Park — and this gig made us fall even deeper in love. This guy does simply amazing things with his mouth and his mind, easily tapping into this city's cultural zeitgeist (touching on tech, displacement, bikes-vs.-cars, and other issues du jour) like he's tapping some source of divine truth. Wow. pitter-pat.



You may know him only as the late, great man behind the best free music festival in the US, but Warren Hellman was many things to many people — and often a walking study in contradictions. (The Bay Citizen described him as a "...Republican who supported labor unions, an investment banker whose greatest joy was playing songs of the working class in a bluegrass band.") "Hardly Strictly Warren Hellman," a new exhibit opening Thu/18 at the Contemporary Jewish Museum, dives into the philanthropist's legacy through hours of archival video footage, photos, music, and personal items — like Hellman's banjo, signed by Emmylou Harris and Hazel Dickens. www.thecjm.org | PHOTOS COURTESY CONTEMPORARY JEWISH MUSEUM

BARF WISHES

We've never been so excited for something so gross-sounding — well, since the last **B.A.R.F.** (Bay Area Record Fair), that is. The second edition of this relatively new local record label showcase, brought to $you\ by\ Father/Daughter\ Records,\ Professional\ Fans,\ and\ Rabbl,\ goes\ down\ at\ and\ around\ noon\ at\ Thee$ Parkside on Saturday, Sept. 27. Featuring more than two dozen labels and live performances from Happy Diving, Hot Flash Heat Wave, Wild Moth, and Three O'Clock Rock, we can think of very few better ways to spend an afternoon. For more: www.bayarearecordfair.com

GALSTER MEMORIAL

A huge, star-studded memorial for classic local drag performer Arturo Galster is planned for Mon/22, 7:30pm at the Castro

Theatre, Galster died last month after returning home with a mysterious head wound; his family has issued a statement that no foul play was involved. "A Celebration of Arturo Galster" will be "an event fit for royalty" says producer Marc Huestis, and will include tributes to Galster, especially his famed Patsy Cline persona. The event will be free, but a memorial fund to cover costs has been set up on IndieGoGo: www. indiegogo.com/projects/a-celebration-ofarturo-galster.

PHOTO BY DAN NICOLETTA

SEX IN YOUR EARHOLES

We talked sex and summertime during this week's [Sun/14] latest installment of Alternative Ink, the Bay Guardian's biweekly radio show on BFF. fm, along with money in politics, the tech perspective, what's being done to help child refugees, and the explosive report on

BART's bungled approach to last year's labor contract negotiations. And then we talked about sex some more. Listen in by clicking the link at www.sfbg.com/Politics.



Okay, some tech folks can be okay folks, but one thing that has to go is the startup T-shirt. Why do tech workers wear them? Are they selling us their app with their comely office-chair bods? No one knows! What we do know is. after San Francisco bassist Cory Sklar started his Tumblr blog, "DudesInStartupShirts," the tech T-shirt of choice blew up on Buzzfeed. Cory told us, "I wear band shirts. Maybe that's just as lame, in a way." Nope. Cory: your frayed, vintage Scorpions shirt will beat out a Dropbox tee any day.

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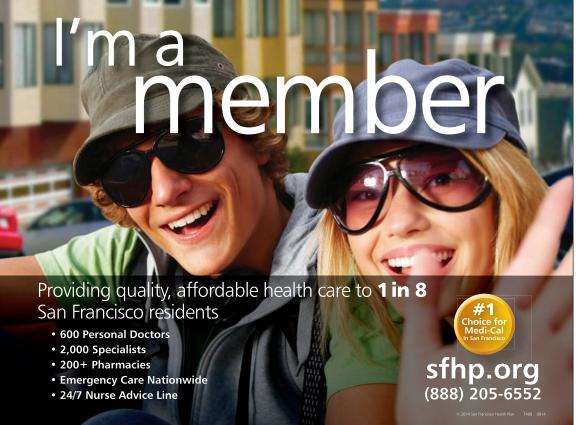
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OPINION NEWS FOOD + DRINK THE SELECTOR MUSIC ARTS + CULTURE FILM CLASSIFIEDS SEPTEMBER 17 - 23, 2014 / SFBG.COM 5

Reform BART's approach to labor

BY CHRISTINA OLAGUE

OPINION If BART is part of your daily commute, you know how critical a reliable system is to Bay Area working people. If you don't ride BART, all you have to do is think about all the cars the system keeps off the road every day.

That's why everyone — most of all the BART unions and their supporters — found last year's strike so upsetting. And now, a new report commissioned in part by BART Board member James Fang shows how unnecessary it was for management to drive workers to walk off the job.

In fact, the report says, hiring a union-busting outside negotiator was a serious mistake. Allowing that hired gun to pursue an extremist bargaining strategy was a major cause of the labor unrest.

The report, conducted by an outside consultant, involved interviews with dozens of workers, managers, and negotiators. The document is riddled with references to war: bomb-throwing, Vietnam, a labor "massacre." It shows how badly the executive management at BART allowed the climate for negotiations to deteriorate — and how hard it will be to repair the damage.

Here's how one manager put it: "This strike was not productive. We never did a course correction and then there was another strike. Two people got killed. We spent millions to end up getting creamed, and engendering hate."

The report notes how BART executive management and its notorious chief negotiator refused to take seriously the concerns workers expressed about safety.

"Key points made about safety in bargaining sessions fell on deaf ears...because management thought the unions were just posturing and the unions thought the management was refusing to engage," it states.

Safety concerns were a central part of the negotiations from the workers' perspective, and by dismissing those concerns as a tactic, BART's consultant not only made an agreement more difficult but gambled with the safety of workers and riders in order get concessions from workers.

Fang, head of the BART Board's Labor Negotiation Review Committee, is asking that the board

adopt the report's recommendations to prevent this from happening again. These recommendations include more transparency around the agency's finances, a much earlier start to negotiations — and if needed, bringing in mediators, not outside anti-union consultants.

Once the rest of our elected BART Board of Directors became more involved, management found a reasonable solution that both sides could live with. Why didn't that happen at the beginning of negotiations?

That's what the BART Board needs to be asking itself. A fair postmortem puts much of the blame on management — a general manager who had little experience in labor negotiations and a board that failed to show leadership and independence.

We've heard from some politicians looking to score easy points from frustrated riders that BART strikes ought to be banned. And it's easy to imagine frustrated commuters, stuck far from work when the trains weren't running, feeling sympathetic.

But if workers don't have the right to strike, they are powerless to speak out against dangerous working conditions to a recalcitrant and, in this case, misdirected management. That leads to a more dangerous system for all of us.

Recognizing this, BART Board President Joel Keller just withdrew his suggestion that strikes be banned.

The much better approach for riders like me is to follow Fang's prevention plan: Hold management accountable for its failures and to make sure that both sides can work together better in the future.

BART is a phenomenally successful system. Ridership has doubled in recent years, to 440,000 trips a day. With trained and experienced BART workers, the system's on-time performance has risen to 95 percent. That's not the result of some high-paid labor negotiator — it's the work of a dedicated and hard-working staff.

Between now and 2017, when the next contract will be negotiated, the BART Board needs to learn from its past mistakes and find a different, more collaborative approach. sfbg

Christina Olague is a community activist and former member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.



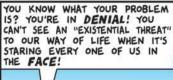


JAMES BOND SUPERVILLAINS, AND THEY **REALLY** DON'T POSE AN EXISTENTIAL THREAT TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. HMMPH.

by TOM TOMORROW

YES, THEY'RE BAD PEOPLE WHO DO

VERY BAD THINGS. BUT THEY'RE NOT









Bridge the housing-Muni divide

EDITORIAL One of the most frustrating political conflicts in San Francisco this election season is the schism between sustainable transportation activists and affordable housing advocates, a split that unnecessarily divides the progressive movement and one that has been cynically manipulated by the Mayor's Office and its political allies.

We at the Bay Guardian haven't yet decided what position we'll take on Props. A and B — both of which would give more money to the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency for Muni and other transportation needs — or Prop. K, the affordable housing measure that was heavily watered down by the Mayor's Office. Our endorsements come out Oct. 8.

But we can say that we've been concerned with how housing and transportations needs have been pitted against one another — and by the political tactics that are being used to create that false choice in the minds of voters, often by those who have a financial self-interest in making misleading arguments.

San Francisco needs more affordable housing, a robust public transit system, and fully funded social services if it is to remain an efficient, diverse. compassionate city. We need all of those things, now, before we experience even more impacts from the rapid growth now underway.

Mayor Ed Lee chose to break his promise to place a local vehicle license fee increase on the fall ballot, so Sup. Scott Wiener and others placed Prop. B on the ballot instead. It would tie the city's General Fund contributions to Muni to city population growth, but it would also allow the mayor to end that subsidy if voters approve the VLF increase in a future election.

Several local journalists have reported on the carrots and sticks that members of the Mayor's Office have used to try to sink Prop. B and maintain affordable housing advocates' support for Prop. K (see "Mayoral meltdown," Aug. 5), pitting transportation and housing activists against one another, either by accident or design.

But San Francisco can't afford this false dichotomy, and it's high time to finally have this discussion openly and honestly. So the next Bay Guardian Community Forum — on Oct. 9 6-8pm in the LGBT Center, 1800 Market St. will focus on bridging this gap. We'll be inviting key players on both sides and we hope that you, dear readers, will join us as well.

The same players in this city who are urging San Francisco to rapidly grow as an economic and population center are sabotaging the political alliances and funding mechanisms that we need to handle that growth. It's time for a forthright, public discussion about the city's many long-term needs and how to finance them. SFBG

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Wilbur Storey, statement of the aims of the Chicago Times, 1861

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GH DUDGEON - BIRDEMIC

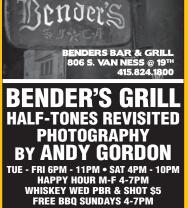
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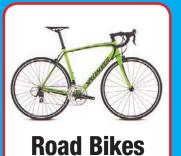
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BY EMILY DUGDALE AND STEVEN T. JONES

news@sfbg.com

NEWS As controversial legislation to legalize and regulate Airbnb and other short-term housing rental services operating in San Francisco headed for another contentious City Hall hearing on Sept. 15, the San Francisco Treasurer & Tax Collector's Office quietly unveiled new policies and mechanisms for hosts to finally start paying long-overdue local taxes on their rentals.

Board of Supervisors President David Chiu's legislation attempts to strike a balance between protecting housing for permanent city residents — including tenants in rent-controlled units who are being displaced in favor of visiting tourists — and allowing San Franciscans to sometimes rent out rooms through companies such as Airbnb. That practice has mushroomed during the Great Recession even though such short-term rentals of residential units have long been illegal in San Francisco (see

Still not sharing

------ Airbnb slammed at city hearing for not paying taxes or cooperating with proposed regulations -----

"Into thin air," 8/20/13).

Among other provisions, Chiu's legislation would require hosts to register with the city and live in their units for at least 275 days per year (thus limiting rental nights to 90), create enforcement procedures for city agencies, and protect below-market-rate and single-room occupancy units from being used as short-term rentals.

But Airbnb has also been snubbing the city for more than two years since the Tax Collector's Office held public hearings and concluded that short-term rental companies and their hosts are required to collect and pay the city's Transient Occupancy Tax (aka, the hotel tax), a surcharge of about 15 percent on room rentals

usually paid by visiting guests (see "Airbnb isn't sharing," 3/19/13).

After other media outlets finally joined the Bay Guardian in raising questions about the impact that Airbnb and other companies was having on San Francisco and with New York City, Berlin, and other cities taking steps to ban short-term rentals — Airbnb announced in March that it would begin collecting and paying the TOT in San Francisco sometime this summer.

But that still hasn't happened, even though Tax Collector Jose Cisneros recently unveiled a new website clarifying that Airbnb hosts must register as businesses and pay taxes, and creating a streamlined system for doing so.

The office is even allowing Airbnb and other companies to register as "qualified website companies" that collect and pay these taxes on behalf of hosts.

"THE LAW **DOES APPLY** TO THESE TRANSACTIONS."

JOSE CISNEROS. TAX COLLECTOR

transactions," Cisneros told us. the same for the hosts and the website companies."

Airbnb didn't respond to

"The law does apply to these "And the set of requirements are



Guardian inquiries for this story.

Meanwhile, an unusually diverse coalition of critics continues to raise concerns about Airbnb and the regulatory legislation, including renter and landlord groups, neighborhood and affordable housing activists, labor leaders, and former members of the Board of Supervisors (including Chiu predecessor, Aaron Peskin) and the Planning Commission. They penned a Sept. 15 note to Chiu calling for him to delay the legislation.

"Individually and collectively, we have advanced nearly two dozen additional amendments that address the issues raised by short-term residential rentals. While we are not of one mind on every issue or every suggested amendment, we are unanimous in our belief that the process you are pursuing is rushed," they wrote. "The City will live with the intended (and unintended) consequences of your legislation for many, many years."

Sources in Chiu's office had already told the Guardian that he planned to keep the legislation in committee for at least one more hearing so the myriad details can be worked out, as Chiu said at the hearing as well.

"We want to have the time to continue to vet and hear all of the perspectives, and at the end of the day what I hope to do is to be able to move forward and build incentives around something that is far better than our current status quo," Chiu said at the hearing. "This is a very complicated issue, and we all know that we need to get this policy as right as we can."

Planning Director John Rahaim conveyed sentiments from the Planning Commission that the legislation beef up the city's ability to regulate short-term rentals.

"The commission does believe that the law should be updated to create a legal avenue for those who do want to host," Rahaim said. "However, currently there are about 5,000 units in the city engaging in short-term rentals. It's very difficult to know if there are units not being lived in by a fulltime resident."

A long line of speakers wound completely around the packed chamber in City Hall, awaiting their turn to speak publicly to supervisors and city residents, from 20-somethings making a living renting out their homes

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HOUSING RIGHTS COMMITTEE ACTIVIST FRED SHERBURN-ZIMMER SPEAKS OUT AGAINST AIRBNB ON SEPT. 15, MOMENTS BEFORE AIRBNB SUPPORTERS GATHER ON THE STEPS OF CITY HALL TO SING THE PRAISES OF THE RESIDENTIAL SHARING NETWORK. SF EXAMINER PHOTO BY MIKE KOOZMIN

to longtime tenants fearing that home-sharing will hurt the city's character.

Airbnb was represented at the hearing by David Owen, a former City Hall staffer who is now director of public policy for the company, and he was publicly confronted by Chiu on the tax issue. Chiu criticized Airbnb for failing to start collecting those taxes as promised.

"As of now, we are extremely close and you will be hearing



from us about that in the near future," Owen said, provoking audible disbelief from many in the crowd. "We have been working diligently alongside the city. This is a complicated set of issues and those involved have all worked in earnest to facilitate this request."

When Owen was asked about enforcement of the maximum number of nights a tenant has rented out his unit, he said Airbnb's cooperation is "akin to the city asking Home Depot.com for a list of home care purchases to see if anyone had illegally renovated their bathroom."

But city officials say they need the company's cooperation to address its impacts.

"We don't want data, just the number of nights per permanent resident so that we can ensure that the bad outcomes of this setup aren't occurring," Sup. Jane Kim said. "Airbnb profits from this industry, and therefore [is] accountable to the city." SFBG





NEWS DROUGHT

BY REBECCA BOWE

rebecca@sfbg.com

NEWS At the tail end of a dry, dusty summer, California continues to weather the effects of an extraordinary drought.

Wildfires have swept through forestlands in the Sierra Nevada foothills, Mendocino County, and near Yosemite recently, making for smoky skies and glaring red sunsets. Meanwhile, shrinking reservoirs have prompted the state to issue for-

Water with a price tag

Prop. 1 opponents line up against funding for new dams -

mal crackdowns on watering lawns and washing cars.

These extreme circumstances may be linked to why voter support for Proposition 1, a \$7.5 billion general obligation bond for water-related projects, has initially registered high.

Elected officials have trumpeted Prop. 1 as a measure that will alleviate the worst impacts of the drought.

In the Bay Area, 62 percent of likely voters said they'd vote in favor Prop. 1, while that support came in at 52 percent statewide, according to a recent Field Poll. The bill that became Prop. 1 won bipartisan support in the Legislature after lawmakers struck a deal to kill an earlier \$11 billion proposal and replace it instead with the slimmed-down version.

Despite the rare consensus, opponents charge that Prop. 1 won't actually address the water crisis.

"We really don't deal with the drought here," said Connor Everts, executive director of the California Watershed Alliance, after reviewing the details.

Everts spoke during a Sept. 11 conference call organized by opponents of Prop. 1. They reject the water bond mainly because it dedicates a significant chunk of funding, \$2.7 billion, toward new dam projects. They view this as an unacceptable tradeoff.

"We can't conjure water out of thin air with new dams," pointed out Barbara Barrigan-Parilla, the opposition campaign director, who runs a grassroots organization advocating for sustainable management of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. More should go toward conservation measures, she said.

The Delta has suffered hefty ecological impacts from freshwater pumping to feed the state's water-delivery system. Friends of the River has also come out against Prop. 1, as have many members of the Environmental Water Caucus, a statewide coalition of grassroots organizations.

Lawmakers have tried to pass a water bond since 2009, but earlier versions were shot down as pork-laden.

In June, Gov. Jerry Brown called for a \$6 billion bond that would throw \$2 billion toward dam projects, but the needle moved up after Republicans — taking advantage of the fact that it needed a two-thirds majority vote to pass — withheld support unless they were promised more money for dams.

Water storage is a high priority for agribusiness farmers, whose sprawling croplands soak up vast quantities of water. A whopping 70 percent of all water rights claims issued by the State Water Resources Control Board are for agriculture, according to a University of California at Davis study.

"If these dams actually get built, we believe they will take more water out of the rivers that are dammed, and there will be less to come out of all of the environmental benefits," envisioned by other provisions in the bill, said Carolee Krieger, execu-

tive director of the California Water Impact Network (C-WIN). "In the long run, we believe it would be way worse for the environment."

Adam Scow, speaking during the conference call on behalf of San Francisco-based Food and Water Watch, pointed out that California desperately needs to invest in basic water needs, like fixing old leaky pipes. Nevertheless, Prop. 1 is "just prolonging these fights over new, silly dam projects," Scow said.

Significant Prop. 1 funds would also be committed toward cleaning up groundwater, restoring damaged watersheds, advancing water-treatment technology, and ensuring safe drinking water access for low-income communities. The Sierra Club issued a statement announcing that while it's supportive of these good programs, its official stance on Prop. 1 is "no position."

Opponents of Prop. 1 noted during the call that California faces a fundamental problem that won't be addressed by the water bond: The amount of water allocated by water rights claims is five times higher than what actual river flows provide in an average year.

"The one thing that must be done is to balance water rights claims to actual supplies," Krieger said. The difference between real supplies and what's promised in a contract, she added, is called "paper water." This means many users receive less water in practice than what they're technically promised, but those unrealistic promises make for confusing and conflict-heavy management of scarce water resources.

The bizarre dysfunction is well-documented in a UC Davis study published in February. Of 27 major rivers, the study found, 16 had allocation levels "greater than 100 percent of natural supplies."

The state "simply does not have accurate knowledge of how much water is being used by most water rights holders," the UC Davis study noted, making it "nearly impossible" to reduce consumption or manage water supplies in a way that's more equitable and environmentally responsible.

If voters grant their stamp of approval for the \$7.5 billion water bond, the state may well move forward with important environmental initiatives, as well as multi-billion dollar dam projects that will take decades to build.

But no matter what happens, money still can't buy snowfall in the Sierras, and it's going to take more than cash to get to the root of California's water woes. SFBG



MODERNISM

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This exhibition is organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington, and the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. Presenting Sponsors: Penny and James George Coulter. Director's Circle: Estate of Dr. Charles L. Dibble. President's Circle: Bernard Osher Foundation. Curator's Circle: Lisa and Douglas Goldman Fund. Conservator's Circle: National Endowment for the Arts and the S. Grace Williams Trust. Benefactor's Circle: Nion T. McEvoy. Patron's Circle: Carol and Shelby Bonnie, Richard and Peggy Greenfield, the Ednah Root Foundation, Dorothy Saxe, and Sotheby's. The exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.



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10 SAN FRANCISCO BAY GUARDIAN OPINION NEWS FOOD + DRINK THE SELECTOR MUSIC ARTS + CULTURE FILM CLASSIFIEDS

Deadly gamble

Report: Media stoked BART's union-bashing strategy

BY JOE FITZGERALD RODRIGUEZ joe@sfbg.com

NEWS As BART management and unions were locked in dysfunctional contract negotiations that would result in two strikes and two deaths last year, the district and the media scoffed at workers' safety concerns and waged a media campaign demonizing the unions. Now, a new report commissioned by the district calls that strategy a horrible mistake.

The report from independent investigators Agreement Dynamics Inc., "Bay Area Rapid Transit Collective Bargaining Report and Recommendations," reveals BART management perceived the Bay Area as anti-union. This guided its decision to hire Tom Hock as a contract negotiator and adopt a union-bashing public relations strategy that was then amplified by most local mainstream media outlets.

"In interviews, Tom Hock said he believed the strike would be very short and the unions would have to come back and reach an agreement," the report, which was based on more than 200 hours of interviews of 60 BART employees, managers, and contractors, found. "He said media reports also heavily favored the management perspective."

The San Francisco Chronicle and the San Jose Mercury News attacked BART's workers in their news and editorial pages, stoking the flames of anger. "As to union claims that this is all about safety — how stupid do they think the public is?" the Merc opined in a July 2013 editorial. The Chronicle struck a similar tone in its Oct. 18 editorial, blaming workers and writing "the walkout is the height of irresponsibility."

The unions warned management not to run the trains during the second strike, but those safety warnings went unheeded. A contract deal was reached only after two men working on the tracks during the strike, Laurence Daniels and Christopher Sheppard, were accidentally run down during what was later revealed as a replacement driver training exercise — warnings be damned.

"Some in management believed they had a good media strategy that put the public on their side," the report found. Therefore, "the public was angry with the unions for demanding too much in their contracts." BART approved a contract with big-time public relations firm Singer Associates in April last year. Sam Singer and his firm are well-known for pulling the strings of local journalists and using scorched-earth tactics. As a result, articles highlighted riders' woes and selected employee salaries while discounting safety and other concerns raised by workers.

But BART management and its board had longstanding CAL-OSHA violations, some of which were the subject of labor negotiations leading up to the strike. Notably, BART's now-defunct "simple approval" policy, by which workers verbally notified management they would be working on the tracks, was one that both workers and state regulators long urged the district to change. The two deaths were linked to that controversial practice, which BART has since ended (see "Tragedy follows strike," 10/23/13).

State regulators have fined BART for that fatal misjudgment, and a final report from the National Transportation Safety Board is expected in the coming months. Only The Nation, East Bay Express, and Bay Guardian covered BART safety concerns with any depth or gravity before the two workers' deaths.

It's hard to tell who led the dance — did the mainstream media embolden management, or did management lead on the media? Either way, safety was not a priority for BART managers during negotiations.

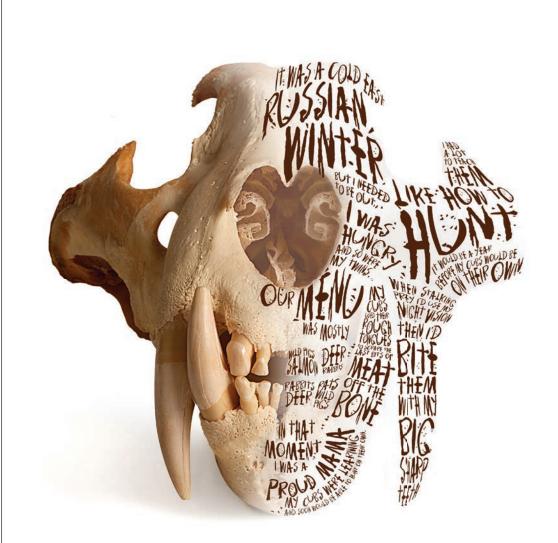
"Key points made about safety in bargaining sessions, as reported to us, fell on deaf ears," the report's authors noted. "Management thought the unions were just posturing, and the unions thought management was refusing to engage."

The unions, the report found, "voiced frustration that they have raised these issues repeatedly, and management was not responsive...The 'simple approval' policy was seen as indicative of management's unwillingness to deal with safety concerns until two workers were killed during the second strike in 2013."

BART's next contract negotiations are set for 2017. The transit agency has much work to do to repair its lingering culture of distrust, but so-called unbiased media need to cop to their anti-union slants. It took two deaths to show how relevant safety concerns really were. SFBG









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OPINION NEWS FOOD + DRINK THE SELECTOR MUSIC ARTS + CULTURE FILM CLASSIFIEDS SEPTEMBER 17 - 23, 2014 / SFBG.COM 11

TRANSBAY DEAL REACHED

After threats of lawsuits, aggressive lobbying, and frantic backdoor deal-making at City Hall, the Board of Supervisors on Sept. 9 announced that a deal was finally reached to settle a dispute over taxes on huge new office towers around the new Transbay Terminal, including the 1,000-foot Salesforce Tower.

At issue was a special tax district requiring Boston Properties and other developers to pay up to \$1.4 billion for public infrastructure, including San Francisco's high-speed rail connection and completion of the Transbay Terminal and a rooftop public park, in exchange for upzonings allowing them to exceed building height limits.

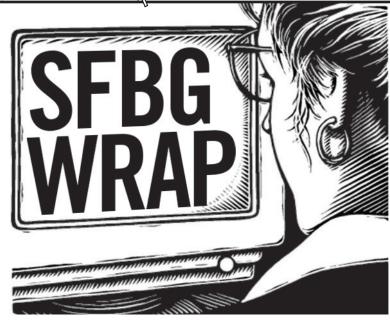
Those taxes were based on recent property values, but the developers sought tax rates based on 2007 property values, and they hired former Mayor Willie Brown to lobby for tax levels of around \$400 million, paying him at least \$100,000 to do so, according to filings with the Ethics Commission.

"When I woke up this morning, I said there's no way I'd let this stall," Sup. Scott Wiener, who has taken the lead on trying to hold the developers to the original deal, told us on the day of a board hearing on the matter.

But the deal actually turned out okay for the city, he said, at least at first blush. The developers will still end up paying up to \$1.4 billion (officials say the actual figure will be closer to \$1 billion) in the special tax district, but that will be paid over 37 years instead of 30, allowing them to make smaller payments.

Advocates and developers alike showed up in force to pressure supervisors at the hearing. "There's no time for waffling," Tom Radulovich, executive director of Livable City, told supervisors during public comment, arguing for the high developer fees. "Why don't people make 1,000foot skyscrapers in the Nevada desert? There's no society there, no infrastructure, no water. The value for the land is created by the infrastructure from the Bay Area's pockets, which added billions of dollars to downtown land. We need more capacity."

The complicated deal is still preliminary, with the devil in



the myriad details, and the board approved a two-week continuance to complete and study the new terms before approving them.
(Joe Fitzgerald Rodriguez)

HELP FOR YOUNG REFUGEES

At a Sept. 10 hearing at the Board of Supervisors Budget and Finance Committee, undocumented youth from Central America shared stories of their harrowing journeys to the United States, asking supervisors to approve a funding request for \$1.2 million to provide legal counsel for undocumented kids facing deportation proceedings in San Francisco immigration court.

A girl named Natalie, who is 10, described being held in a detention facility she called the "freezer" because of the uncomfortable temperature. "It was unbearably cold. It was freezing," she said during testimony. "We had to cover ourselves with aluminum foil."

Brian, who is 12, explained that gangs in Guatemala, where he and his 7-year-old brother fled from, often killed youth who refused to join them in violence. Others described horrific violence in their home countries in Central America.

The supplemental funding request was proposed by Sup. David Campos, who noted during the hearing that he felt a personal connection with the kids because he was once an undocumented youth arriving to the United States from Central America.

Yet when Campos introduced the budget supplemental pro-

posal a week prior, at the Board of Supervisors meeting, Board President David Chiu — Campos' opponent in the race to represent District 17 in the California Assembly — noted that he had secured funding during the budget process for the expansion of a legal aid program to ensure immigrant youth would have access to pro bono legal counsel.

"Unless we actually fund nonprofits to provide that support, pro bono counsel cannot help in the way that we need them to," Campos said during the Sept. 10 hearing.

In the end, Sups. John Avalos, Eric Mar, and Mark Farrell voted unanimously to recommend approval of \$1.06 million per year for two years, slightly less than the \$1.2 million per year Campos had originally sought. The full board was scheduled to vote on the proposal after Guardian press time, at the Sept. 16 full board meeting. (Rebecca Bowe)

REALTORS TARGET PROP. G

Two Realtor groups have dumped nearly \$600,000 into the campaign against Prop. G, the tax on flipping properties to discourage real estate speculation and evictions in San Francisco, a massive early donation that could signal the beginning of a campaign onslaught by the Realtors.

A campaign group calling itself Stop the Housing Tax, No on G, and Coalition of Homeowner, Renter, and Real Estate Organizations received a \$425,000 donation from the California

Association of Realtors Issues Mobilization PAC on Sept. 4 and \$170,000 from the San Francisco Association of Realtors on Aug. 26, according to filings with the Ethics Commission.

"We are working to raise funds to defeat the tax on housing, which will make San Francisco even less affordable to middle class families," said Jay Cheng with the SF Association of Realtors.

Yet affordable housing advocates were critical of the claims.

"Make no mistake: the polished No on G mailer you receive spouting lies such as 'G will hurt homeowners' is coming directly from the mouths of the Realtors, the very people who have the most to gain by continuing to allow for evictions and flipping of apartments," said Sara Shortt, executive director of the Housing Rights Committee of San Francisco. "These are the same players who dumped piles of money to kill Ellis Act reform in Sacramento. And these are the same people who are making windfall profits by evicting low income tenants in San Francisco and wreaking havoc on our neighborhoods." (Steven T. Jones)

COMBATING INCOME INEQUALITY

Rep. Barbara Lee (D-Oakland) and U.C. Berkeley's Haas Institute for a Fair and Inclusive Society on Sept. 10 released the institute's first policy prescriptions for reducing inequality. The policy brief introduced research-based approaches suggested by a diverse array of economists looking at inequality through different lenses.

Meanwhile, Lee has introduced two bills aimed at curbing inequality. The first, the Income Equity Act (H.R. 199), would limit the tax deductibility of executive compensation packages. Currently, the more a firm pays its CEO, the more the firm can deduct from its taxes. "Despite record corporate profits, none of it is being shared with the American working class — the strongest work force in the world," Jim Lewis, Lee's press director, told the Guardian. "We're pushing for research-based initiatives that are realistic when implemented."

The second, Lee's Pathways Out of Poverty Act (H.R. 5352), addresses unemployment, particularly in low-income African American and Latino communities. It aims to create good-paying jobs and increase social mobility while strengthening the social net for those still struggling.

"For many years, income inequality was viewed as an important factor and byproduct of growth," said Powell. "That has been largely discredited by economists. It's not a necessary byproduct of technological advances and globalization." (Kyle Da Silva)

RISE UP

WEDNESDAY 18

LEATHER AND FEATHERS: AIDS EMERGENCY FUND'S ANNUAL GALA

Temple Nightclub, 540 Howard, SF. 7pm, \$125. For the second year, the San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund is hosting its annual gala, Leather and Feathers, to raise money for clients. This year, the organization is proud to debut Fantasy Runway, where community members will strut their finest leather, fetish gear, and drag.

FRIDAY 19

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS' DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATE FORUM

Golden Gate University, Room 2201, 536 Mission, SF. 6-8pm, free. Incumbent Jane Kim, and challengers Michael Nulty, David Carlos Salaverry, and Jamie Whitaker are invited to take questions from the San Francisco League of Women Voters and audience members regarding the race for District 6 supervisor. The forum is free and open to the public, with seating on a first-served basis.

DAN CHOI: FIGHT FOR CITY COLLEGE

Barry's Bootcamp, 236 King St., SF. pro-choi. com. 9pm-midnight, \$25 presale, \$50 at door. Dan Choi, a candidate for the City College Board and a key player in the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" repeal movement, will host this event and fundraiser for Fight for City College. That organization is fighting to save the threatened LGBT studies program at City College of San Francisco. Enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres by Skyy Cocktails, as well as musical entertainment, during the event.

SUNDAY 21

TRANSIT HISTORY BICYCLE TOUR

Eric Quezada Center for Culture and Politics, 518 Valencia, SF. noon-3pm, \$15 – \$50 suggested donation. Chris Carlsson, of Shaping San Francisco, will lead this bicycle tour of San Francisco's transit history. He'll highlight locations linked to San Francisco transit history, such as the Freeway Revolt in Hayes Valley, the creation of The Wiggle, Critical Mass and bicycle activism in San Francisco, the United Railroads Strike, and nostalgic F-line cars. The tour will wrap up at Pier 36 with a look at San Francisco's first Clipper ships.

NORCAL PEOPLE'S CLIMATE RALLY

Lake Merritt Amphitheater, Lake Merritt Blvd and 12th St., Oakl. peoplesclimatemarch.org. 2-5pm, free. Join activists and community members in a family-friendly settling for a rally in solidarity with the People's Climate Rally in NYC, which will bring together environmental organizations, trade unions, and social justice groups nationwide for a gathering just before the Sept. 24 UN Climate Summit of world leaders. The Oakland demonstration, in support of the larger movement in NYC, will feature "Climate Fair" with a host of Bay Area environmental organizations that are focused on climate change. SFBG

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FOOD + DRINK STATE









BY MARCIA GAGLIARDI culture@sfbg.com

TABLEHOPPING Lovers of fine wine are going to prick their ears up over this one: Mark Bright (Saison) is opening **Bright's Les Clos** (234 Townsend, SF; www.lesclossf.com), a wine bar in SoMa, and let's just say there will be Burgundy. A lot of it. Plus some fantastic French dishes from Shawn Gawle, previously the pastry chef at Saison, who also has great savory skills as well.

The place is more than just a wine bar — it's designed to serve the neighborhood all day, whether you are coming in for eggs and a Sightglass cappuccino in the morning, nabbing canelés to go, a sandwich to bring back to your desk, or a wine flight after you punch the clock (with some fantastic cheese), and then there are so many options to feast on: frisée aux lardons, Parisienne gnocchi gratinée with Comté, or how about some moules à la provençale? You'll also have 40 wines by the glass to choose from. Love the wine you had? There's also a retail shop, and Bright's partner in the venture, Cara Patricia Higgins, has deep wine knowledge. There will be classes too, special tastings ... and Humphry Slocombe ice cream. Done. Look for an opening in mid-September.

Russian Hill residents will soon be getting their own wine bar, shop, and hangout at Union Larder (1945 Hyde, SF; www.unionlarder. com), from Melissa Gugni and Jay Esopenko of North Beach's Little Vine. The 30-seat spot should be opening very soon, with a zinc bar, housemade salumi from their chef (Ramon Siewart), and get this: Kristi Bachman, the buyer at the Cheese

Fall color

School of SF, is the cheese director, selecting close to 100 cheeses. Whoa. The meat-and-cheese boards will be on another level, trust. Plus there will be oysters, sandwiches, salads, and lots of quality wine and retail items.

Fans of Brenda's French Soul Food who live near the Divisadero corridor are going to be thrilled with this one: hopefully by mid-November, Brenda Buenviaje and her partner Libby Truesdell will be opening Brenda's Meat & Three (919 Divisadero, SF) in the Blue Jay Café. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be on offer, and will include many Southern dishes, not just highlighting Brenda's love for all things New Orleans. Think blue plate specials for lunch, and dinner means you take your pick from five or six proteins (like her delicious fried chicken or fried catfish) and three sides, with up to 15 in all, like smothered green beans and mac and cheese. Vegetarians will be able to make a full meal out of the sides. Everyone wins (and will get fat).

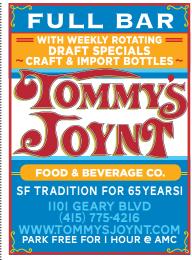
Here's a story of a pop-up getting a brick-and-mortar location: Val Cantu of Californios (3115 22nd St, SF; www.californiossf.com) is going to be opening his restaurant in the Mission in the former Panchita's 3.

It's going to be an intimate space, with 24 seats and seven at the chef's counter. His cuisine style is a modern take on Mexican cuisine, with references to Californios and Alta California (you can Wiki that). There will be three tasting menus, all priced to be affordable (\$45-\$75): an omnivorous four-course, a vegetable four-course, and an extended seven- to 10-course menu. Look for a November opening.

Things continue to get sudsy: opening near Nob Hill this fall is Hogwash (582 Sutter, SF), just next door to Cantina. One of the owners is behind Zeki's Bar, partnering with Paula Thompson — they brought in Rich Higgins to assemble the beer list (30 on draught). Look for gourmet sausages made in-house and other beer-friendly food, plus beer milkshakes and floats! The cool design is from Geremia Design, including custom-made communal tables that will assuredly inspire a social vibe. And then there's the beer...

Folks who live or work out near Mission Bay will have a new and casual place on the waterfront for all three meals called Stem (499 Illinois, SF) from Bon Appetit Management Company (Public House, the Commissary). The menu will be mostly Mediterranean, and there will even be some ingredients from its edible garden. You'll also find cocktails, coffee, and craft beer (and wine on tap). Bonuses: views of the bay, heated outdoor seating, fire pits, and bocce courts! It will seat 158, and is due in late fall. SFBG

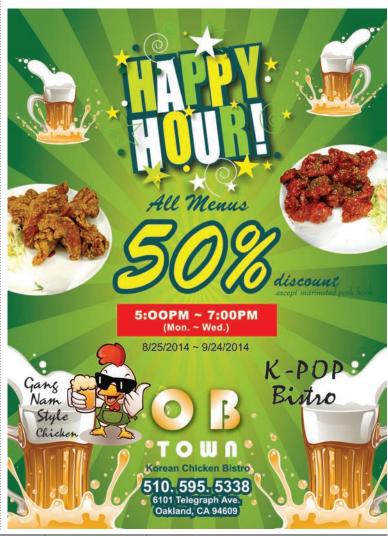
Marcia Gagliardi is the founder of the weekly tablehopper e-column; subscribe for more at www.tablehopper.com. Get her app: Tablehopper's Top Late-Night Eats. On Twitter: @tablehopper.







3211 Mission St. @ Valencia



OPINION THE SELECTOR MUSIC ARTS + CULTURE SEPTEMBER 17 - 23, 2014 / SFBG.COM 13 NEWS FOOD + DRINK CLASSIFIEDS FILM





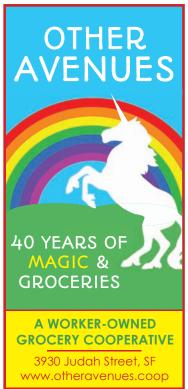




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FOOD + DRINK SEX SHOWING SOME LEG PHOTO COURTESY THE GOLD CLUB



Titties + fried chicken

BY STUART SCHUFFMAN **AKA BROKE-ASS STUART** culture@sfbg.com

THE WEEKNIGHTER / SEX ISSUE "Come on, Stuart. Titties and fried chicken. How can you, of all people, say no?"

They were cajoling me via Twitter. There's probably some hip slang for that, twijoling maybe, but I don't know what it is. Regardless, Mik, Ed, Dottie, and Cait were really giving it to me. And of course I caved. Willpower isn't one of my powers. Plus, Mik was visiting from New York and I'd been meaning to go for so long anyway.

I said to myself, as I was putting on some clothes, "I don't wanna live a life where I can't drop everything and go to a strip club in the middle of the day for a free buffet." I slipped on my shoes and responded to their latest tweet with, "Fine. On my way. I'm gonna make it

rain chicken wings." I first heard about the Gold Club's legendary Free Lunch Buffet at the Gold Club (650 Howard St., SF, goldclubsf. com) when I was compiling info for Broke-Ass Stuart's Guide to Living Cheaply in San Francisco. An ex-girlfriend from college stripped at the Hustler Club and she'd heard about it from one of the girls she danced with. As I neared the Gold Club that day, I thought about how this was one of those SF things I'd always wanted to do and I was excited to finally be crossing it off my list. As I walked in the front door, a girl behind a counter told me that there was a \$5 cover charge. I gladly paid it and went to find my friends.

"I fucking love this place!" Dottie yelled at me over the pulsing Top 40 music, "I come here every year for my birthday!" She'd just pulled her face out from between a stripper's boobs and slipped a couple singles into the elastic of the girl's thong.

"So wait, today's your birthday?" I asked.

"No, but it sure feels like it," she

said with a big shit-eating grin. Just then Mik, Ed, and Cait sat down with plates heaping with food. There was chicken wings, slaw, biscuits, corn, mac and cheese, and so much more. I was about to tell them how amazing it looked when the strip club DJ boomed in his strip club DJ voice, "Let's give it up for the lovely Jasmine! Jasmine everybody! Now coming to the stage is the sensuous Cinnamon! Let's hear it for Cinnamon!" Cinnamon began working the pole to a Lil John song.

"So is the food actually good?" I bellowed over the music.

> "Hell yeah it is!" Mik yelled back. "I'm on my second plate!" Ed said.

So I got up to find out for myself. I don't go to many strip clubs, but the Gold Club was the nicest one I'd ever been to. Someone had spent a lot of money making it the most

attractive place to get publicly undressed in SF. Considering the club's location, and that it was just after noon on a Friday, the place was full of men and women in business suits, tech guys in tech guy

clothes, and Financial District workers wearing North Face fleeces. Surprisingly there were only one or two guys in sweatpants.

I sat back down with my plate of food. "Goddamn, this is good!" I screamed over a Van Halen song. The crew just nodded in agreement. I got a second plate full and wolfed that down too. After a succession of girls with fragrant-sounding names took off their clothes to mediocre music, it was eventually time for each of us to get back to our respective work. As we parted, we agreed it was the best lunch break in the history of people having lunch. "We'll have to do this again next time Mik is in town," I said and we all went our separate ways.

I never did get to make it rain chicken wings. sfbG

Stuart Schuffman, aka Broke-Ass Stuart, is a travel writer, poet, and TV host. You can find his online shenanigans at www.brokeassstuart.com.

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THE SELECTOR









SHOES OPTIONAL

Center recently had a little work

WEDNESDAY/17

4 MULTIPLE MARY AND INVISIBLE JANE

Flyaway Productions, the aerial dance company that aims to "expose the range and power of female physicality," will use an 80-foot wall offered up by the



UC Hastings College of the Law to perform its new, site-specific dance created for the Tenderloin. If you've never seen aerial dance before, get ready to hold your breath as you watch dancers careen, tumble, and pirouette some seven stories up into the stratosphere. But the social justice themes for this performance keep its spirit on the streets, while dancers Erin Mei-Ling Stuart, Alayna Stroud, Marystarr Hope, Becca Dean, Laura Ellis, and Esther Wrobel fly through the air: Multiple Mary and Invisible Jane was choreographed by Jo Kreiter to narrate the experience of homeless women in San Francisco, in a neighborhood where extreme privilege and poverty collide. This afternoon's performance will also have tabling with housing activists from Tenants Together. (Emma Silvers)

Wed/17-Thu/18 at noon and 8pm, Fri/19-Sat/20 at 8 and 9pm; free UC Hastings School of the Law 333 Golden Gate, SF (415) 672-4111

www.flyawayproductions.com

THURSDAY/18

QUAALUDES

Some know quaaludes as a sedative that was popular in the disco era for its dizzying side effects. Others more hip to San Francisco's independent music scene know Quaaludes as an all-girl quartet from the City by the Bay. Combining elements of grunge, post-punk, and riot grrrl, the band is unapologetically fierce when it comes to its live shows



and lyric matter. In the band's latest quest to conquer a primarily male-dominated scene, Quaaludes is releasing its newest 7-inch EP, dubbed Nothing New, on Dollskin and Thrillhouse Records this week. In celebration of this and



its upcoming tour, the band will be playing with Generation Loss, Bad Daddies, and Man Hands at everybody's favorite Bernal Heights' dive bar, The Knockout. (Erin Dage)

With Generation Loss, Bad Daddies, Man Hands

10pm, \$7 Knockout 3223 Mission, SF (415) 550-6994 www.theknockoutsf.com

FRIDAY/19

© EAT REAL FESTIVAL

Do you like noshing on food that's as tasty as it is wallet-friendly? (If the answer is negative, the follow-up is: Do you have a pulse?) Oakland's Eat Real Festival

lures some of the most tempting food trucks and vendors in the Bay Area to Jack London Square, none of which will charge more than eight bucks for whatever's on the menu. Besides affordable, sustainable and local are other key buzzwords at play, but the loudest buzz of all will be emanating from the hungry as they feast on mac 'n' cheese, tacos, BBQ, falafel, vegan delights, sweet treats, and more. (Cheryl Eddy)

Today, 1-9pm; Sat/20, 10:30am-9pm; Sun/21, 10:30am-5pm, free Jack London Square 55 Harrison, Oakl. www.eatrealfest.com

CINE+MAS 6TH ANNUAL SF LATINO FILM FESTIVAL

Filmmakers, young and old, parading their versions of the provoca-creative relationship between the eve behind the lens and the image in front of the camera. This sixth edition of the San Francisco Latino Film Festival



done — a nip here, a tuck there, the installation of 3,300 brandnew seats, a few new bars, food options, and a rather expensive state-of-the-art sound system. Kicking things off at the newand-improved music venue that will henceforth be known as The Masonic is Beck, who seemingly never ages, and whom you can count on to christen the stage but good with his idiosyncratic blend of funk, rock, and melancholy blues (this year's Moon Phase was on the mopier side of the spectrum, but in a darn pretty way). The last time we saw him we were freezing our butts off at the Treasure Island Music Festival, so we're excited to see him moonwalk again (hopefully!) in slightly cozier pastures. (Silvers) 8pm, \$85-\$120

Good

news.

SF

Silent

Film Festival

PAGE 16

Masonic 1111 California, SF (415) 776-7475 www.sfmasonic.com



BECK

www.sflatino

filmfestival.org

In case you hadn't heard, the Nob Hill Masonic

SEPTEMBER 17 - 23, 2014 / SFBG.COM 15 **NPININN** THE SELECTOR NEWS FOOD + DRINK MUSIC ARTS + CULTURE

THE SELECTOR

SATURDAY/20

CONT>>

Autumn," and its movie magic (with live musical accompaniment) arrives at the Castro



months earlier than usual. The day is packed with top-notch programming, but if you must narrow it down: The British Film Institute-curated "A Night at the Cinema in 1914" showcases newsreels (think votes-forwomen protesters and World War I reports), comedies (early Chaplin!), a Perils of Pauline episode, and more; while the freshly restored, memorably creepy German expressionist classic The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari (1920) gets its US premiere. (Eddy)

First program at 11am, \$15 Castro Theatre 429 Castro, SF www.silentfilm.org

SAMHAIN

After the breakup of the original Misfits in 1983, Glenn Danzig built upon the horror punk foundation of his first band and added even darker lyrical content, and later on, a more metal sound to the mix, creating Samhain — a group that would go on to release three records before the singer retooled the lineup and adopted the eponymous moniker of Danzig. When original members Steve Zing and London May join Danzig on stage in San Francisco tonight — one of only seven gigs that the band is playing on this special reunion tour — you can be assured that "All Hell Breaks Loose!" (Sean McCourt) With Goatwhore and Kyng





8pm, \$30-\$45 The Warfield 982 Market, SF www.thewarfieldtheatre.com

SUNDAY/21

BERKELEY WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL

Telegraph Avenue is enough of a spectacle in and of itself on an



average day, but on day two of this free fest — which marks the first time organizers have thrown a fall party in addition to the spring festival — the whole street will become a stage, as organizers have closed the Ave to cars between Dwight and Durant. Get ready to hear Zydeco and Cajun sounds, Klezmer tunes, Moroccan Chaabi pop, Zimbabwean dance numbers, Sufi trance, and just about every other kind of international music you can think of. A kids' section will have puppet shows and street art, while a special beer garden on Telegraph at Haste serves to benefit Berkeley's beloved Ashkenaz Music & Dance Community Center. No passport necessary. (Silvers)

Starts Sat/20, noon to 6pm, free Telegraph between Dwight and Durant, Berk

www.berkeleyworldmusic.org

MONDAY/22

THE RAVEONETTES

Grafting lush harmonies, catchy song structures, and timeless production values from 1950s rock 'n' roll pioneers such as Buddy Holly and the Everly Brothers onto a modern indie approach, The Raveonettes have created an ethereal sound that is virtually all their own. Sune Rose Wagner and Sharin Foo have added fuzz-tone guitars and more on top of their history-steeped musical foundation over the course of several records to great effect, including their latest, Pe'ahi, which hit stores in July. Based on tracks like "Endless Sleeper," it appears that living in Los Angeles has added a ripping surf twang to their guitar sound — along with other welcome, varied instrumentation. (McCourt)

8pm, \$28 Bimbo's 365 Club 1025 Columbus, SF (415) 474-0365 www.bimbos365club.com

TUESDAY/23

ROBIN WILLIAMS DOUBLE FEATURE: THE WORLD ACCORDING TO GARP AND THE BIRDCAGE

What is there to say about the beloved comedian that hasn't already been said? Better to let him speak — rant, sing, preach — for himself, in any of the countless, ridiculous voices in which he spoke. The 1982 adaptation of John Irving's novel sees Williams in the title role of Garp, alongside Glenn Close making her feature debut, plus John Lithgow's Academy Awardnominated turn as a transgender jock. And *The Birdcage*, Mike



Nichols' classic, uproarious 1996 adaptation of *La Cage aux Folles*, pairs Williams with two of the other finest comedic actors of his generation, Hank Azaria and Nathan Lane, for the original *Meet the Parents*, so to speak.

(Hint: It's funnier when one of the couples owns a gay nightclub in South Beach.) Shoes optional? (Silvers)

4:45pm, 7pm, 9:30pm, \$11 Castro Theatre 429 Castro, SF www.castrotheatre.com

GEORGE THOROGOOD

Celebrating 40 years of bringing blues and booze-fueled good times to fans around the globe, George Thorogood and The Destroyers continue to be the



unabashedly best bar band in the world. Just hearing the first few notes or verses of songs like "Move It On Over," "I Drink Alone," "Who Do You Love," and of course, "Bad to the Bone" transports listeners to a jumpin' juke joint of yesteryear, where you forget all your daily troubles and just dance the night away — and you know what to order when the bartender asks. Of course, it's "One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer!" (McCourt)

8pm, \$38.50 The Fillmore 1805 Geary, SF (415) 346-3000 www.thefillmore.com **SFBG**

The Guardian listings deadline is two weeks prior to our Wednesday publication date. To submit an item for consideration, please include the title of the event, a brief description of the event, date and time, venue name, street address (listing cross streets only isn't sufficient), city, telephone number readers can call for more information, telephone number for media, and admission costs. Send information to Listings, the Guardian, 835 Market Street, Suite 550, SF, CA 94103; or e-mail (paste press release into e-mail body — no attachments, please) to listings@sfbg.com. Digital photos may be submitted in jpeg format; the image must be at least 240 dpi and four inches by six inches in size. We regret we cannot accept listings over the phone.

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Y SEPTEMBER 21 RKERL

THE OFFICIAL CLOSING PARTY OF FOLSOM STREET FAIR **GPM TIL 2AM AT MEZZANINE 444 JESSIE STREET**



















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SEPTEMBER 17 - 23, 2014 / SFBG.COM 17 OPINION THE SELECTOR MUSIC ARTS + CULTURE CLASSIFIEDS NEWS FOOD + DRINK FILM

DON'T GET CAUGHT SPRINTING TO CHANGE THE MUSIC MID-MAKEOUT.



No thanks, Bono

BY EMMA SILVERS

esilvers@sfbg.com

LEFT OF THE DIAL Amid all the geeky hyperventilating last week about the iPhone 6 and the Apple Watch, U2 — the Irish rock giants by whom the announcement of new music inspires roughly the same level of excitement as a new flavor of seasonal, sugar-free Starbucks latte, and among the same demographic — tried to pull a Beyoncé by dropping a new album out of nowhere. For free!

Problem is, they dropped it into everyone's iTunes (Bono's a good friend of Jony Ive, the senior VP of design and smarmy videos at Apple) without asking. And not everyone likes U2. (Tyler the Creator, in a burst of creative Twitter activity, compared finding it on his phone to waking up with a pimple "or herpe," concluding "FUCK BONO.")

As of this writing (Sept. 15), Apple has launched an entire site to help annoyed people get the record off their phones. In that spirit: Here are three albums that would have been a welcome surprise instead.

KAREN O, CRUSH SONGS

Oh, Karen O — we've had a crush on you forever, and now you go and do this? The Yeah Yeah Yeah Sen Frontwoman's first solo record, out Sept. 9 on Julian Casablancas' Cult Records, is full of raw, melancholy, lo-fi songs she wrote in 2006 and 2007, and is honestly almost too easy on the ears. Anyone who fell for O's plaintive vocals and stripped-bare songwriting on the Her soundtrack will be entranced by this album, which O described thusly: "When I was 27 I crushed a lot," says Karen of the new record. "I wasn't sure I'd ever fall in love again. These songs were written and recorded in private around this time. They are the soundtrack to what was an ever continuing love crusade. I hope they keep you company on yours."

CHRISTOPHER OWENS, A NEW TESTAMENT

Brace yourselves: Christopher Owens — the pen and voice behind two albums of sweetly tortured, confessional Girls songs (RIP), in addition to last year's first solo effort, the prog-rock folk moodiness that was Lysandre — sounds happy. This sophomore solo effort, culled from songs Owens says he's written over the past four years, shows a songwriter fully embracing his country and gospel influences, the latter of which lend an especially theatrical element to songs like the one for his late brother, "Stephen." The majority of these songs are rollicking, dance-around-your-kitchen-while-making-dinner upbeat, which we could get used to.

BOB MOULD, BEAUTY AND RUIN

A bright, hard-rocking new opus from one of the hardest-working 53-year-olds in the business — and one who still thankfully calls the Bay Area home. Check next week's Bay Guardian for our in-depth interview with Mould about his life in SF and the making of the new album. SFBG











GUARDIAN ILLUSTRATION BY GRACE HENRY PINCER; KAREN O PHOTO BY BARNEY CLAY

Good bad things

Hookup songs should be the sonic equivalent of a good blowjob — plus, a few tunes you might want to skip

BY DANIEL BROMFIELD

arts@sfbg.com

SEX ISSUE Most of the college-aged gay guys I've met aren't terribly into music, so I'm generally the one to pick the sexy-time jams. Toward the beginning of my sophomore year, I finally met a dude who was at least something of a music geek, at least in the sense that his music taste resembled that of a reasonably hip and musically open-minded straight guy. I was thrilled — until one night he had the bright idea to put his "chill mix" on shuffle while we were getting it on. The results were, to say the least, interesting. Here's how it went, um, down.

100110 10011010

TORO Y MOI — "BLESSA"

Toro Y Moi's *Causers Of This* is an album I generally associate with comfortable situations, such as walking through a park or sitting quietly on a couch in some comfy stoner den. It was the first song to appear on shuffle, and though it was awesome for when we were tearing each other's clothes off, it honestly could have worked at any point throughout the night.



FLYING LOTUS — "PHYSICS FOR EVERYONE!"

I don't know what this song was doing in a "chill mix," but I'm (mostly) glad it was there. With its high-energy rhythm and weird,

suction-y effects, it's practically the sonic equivalent of a good blowjob, and as such, I gave the best head of my life as it was playing. I got the sense he was slightly turned off by the fact that I was doing it to the rhythm, but how could I not?



superheroes

speakers.

spat fire from

the dorm-room

MADVILLAIN — "RAID"

This is where things started to get really wacky. Madvillain's MF Doom is one of those artists I generally associate with straight guys, and a very particular set of straight

guys at that — the ones in my high school math class, almost all of whom I wanted to fuck and many of whom thought of me as the class "retard." If only they could see me now, I thought as my partner went down on me and the rapper who once devoted an entire song to dissing gay



BON IVER — "HOLOCENE"

For the duration of Bon Iver's slowest, most starry-eyed ballad, we consciously tried to avoid one of those cheesy



"moments" where we lock eyes and think about how much we like each other. Maybe if we were actually a couple I might have been OK with it, but we were strictly fuckbuddies and content to keep it that way. On the bright side, at least it wasn't "Skinny Love."



I hear "C.R.E.A.M." at parties so much I barely even noticed what was playing for about two minutes. When I finally processed what we were listening to, I found it hilarious — not only because



it might be the all-time Straight College Boy Anthem (give or take "'93 Til Infinity"), but because it was one of the best songs I've ever fucked to. Good sex music should be unobtrusive but still set the mood, and "C.R.E.A.M." was the perfect accourrement to my environment. I was on a college campus — why wouldn't I be listening to "C.R.E.A.M.?"

ANDREW JACKSON JIHAD — "BAD BAD THINGS"

If you haven't heard "Bad Bad Things" (or are unfamiliar with Andrew Jackson Jihad and the band's typical subject matter), it's a song about a dude killing another dude's family. I'll never forget how awkwardly his boner flopped around as he ran across the room to change the song. SFBG



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The Organ Master

BY MARKE B.

marke@sfbg.com

SUPER EGO / SEX ISSUE "My dilemma is that I have to perform at Symphony Hall smack in the middle of Folsom Street Fair," cosmically talented and fantastically flamboyant organist Cameron Carpenter told me over the phone from Berlin. "Now, I could show up drunk and a bit roughed up to perform, or I could sneak out right after my part is done. Neither seem quite optimal. Let's just say I will make an appearance of some sort."

The classical pipe sensation, who describes his sexuality as queer, has a huge fanbase here, not just for his rhinestone-studded pumps and techno-toreador ensembles — look up his YouTube vids and submit to the plucked-eyebrow glory but for his dazzling showmanship and intimate connection to crowds, despite a few diva-genius trappings. Carenter's musicianship is fearless: His latest project was the construction of the world's first digital pipe organ, meant for traveling. "A violinist doesn't have to play another violin when she travels, why should an organist?" Carpenter says of his huge instrument. (New album If You Could *Read My Mind* shows off the digi-organ's chops.)

And in his four-day stint with the SF Symphony, he'll be tackling local composer

Henry Brandt's incredible, Pulitzer-winning "spatial" work *Ice Field*, brimming with atmospheric effects and immersive textures — and played by dozens of musicians arranged around the concert hall. "I will happily admit that this work is intimidating. It's an extremely deep-reaching piece, at times psychotically violent yet aching and beautiful. I need to figure out how to self-immolate in just the right way.

"Look, when you knowingly adopt a life of classical music, you realize you haven't exactly lashed yourself to a star in ascendency." says the home-schooled Pennsylvanian, who claims his initial ignorance of all things pop culture allows him to experience every form of music equally, without prejudice. "But it allows you an incredible amount of freedom. On its face, the pipe organ is essentially a losing proposition — even the digital organ is

'Brotherhood of Organists' is usually the hardest-working, least paid faction in the symphony world, a churchy throwback or niche curiosity to many. "But oh, what noise we can make. As controversial as it is, my intent is to wrest the organ from its sacred bondage and free it into the world of the profane. It's hard to rememlong time in

merely a tool, not a savior. The

ber, but for a human history, the apex of civilization was represented by the inventions of the clock. the loom, and

CAMERON CARPENTER WITH THE SF SYMPHONY

the organ." sfbG

Thu/18 and Sun/21, 2pm Fri/19 and Sat/20, 8pm \$36-\$154

Davies Symphony Hall. 601 Van Ness, SF. www.sfsymphony.org

FOLSOM STREET FAIR

Sun/21, 11am-6pm, Folsom Street between Eighth and 13th streets, www.folsomstreetfair.com

FOLSOM WEEKEND PARTY PICKS

TUBESTEAK CONNECTION

The original weekly underground old school gay disco tribute, going 10-years dirty and strong with DJ Bus Station John.

Thu/18, 10pm-2am, \$5. Aunt Charlie's Lounge, 133 Turk, SF. www.auntcharlieslounge.com

SWAGGER LIKE US: FETISH

Awesome queer hip-hop party gets low with this sexy Folsom special. DJs Robin Malone Simmons, DavO, and boy_friend, live floggings, rope demo, more.

Thu/18, 9:30pm-2am, \$6. Public Works Loft, 161 Erie, SF. www.publicsf.com

BEARRACUDA

Big, hairy, sweaty men twirling with gruff abandon to DJs Luis Lennon, Paul Goodvear, Jackie House, and Trevor Sigler.

Fri/19, 9pm-4am, \$20 advance. Public Works, 161 Erie, SF. www.publicsf.com

CLUB FIST: LUSTY LADY TRIBUTE

Fantastic, sexy Oakland party pays tribute to SF's legendary, recently shuttered Lusty Lady strip club and coop — with original Lusty Lady peepshow dancers performing live, and a "Feisty Fistettes Fucked-Up Foreplay Booth." Hottt.

Fri/19, 9pm-3am, \$5-\$7. One Fam Center, 1606 Seventh St, Oakl. www.tinyurl.com/fistlusty2014

CUB SCOUT

Webelo, youbelo, everybodybelos for this too-cute, super-friendly Cub Scout-themed party from LA. up here for the first time. Earn your badges with DJs Conor, Chris Bowen, and Victor Rodriguez - plus inimitable den mother Lady Bear.

Fri/19, 9pm-2am, \$6. Lookout, 3600 16th St, SF. www.tinyurl.com/ cubscoutsf2014

SOME THING FOLSOM

Vivacious, befuddling, sometimes besmattering art drag at its finest at this weekly party, now with more bondage! Special Guest Marti Gould Cummings. Fri/19, 10pm-4am, \$10. The Stud, 399 Ninth St., SF. www.facebook.com/ groups/clubsomething

POUND PUPPY: DOGGYSTYLE

"We're just some pups on the prowl for a Scooby Snack, and by Scooby Snack we mean a big fat bone to gnaw on." Points for self-actualization! DJs Harry + Jpeg, Jeffrey Sfire, whip the large pack into a house and Italo disco frenzy.

Fri/19, 10pm-4am, \$10. F8, 1192 Folsom, SF. www.tinyurl.com/ folsomdoggystyle

BEATPIG

Nothing says leather better than a pork-themed party. (Well, maybe a beef-themed one). Drag goddess Juanita More and host Walter Gomez pour on the hot boys and crispy cracklins for all the little piggies. Benefits Transgender Law Center.

Sat/20, 9pm-2am, \$5. Powerhouse, 1347 Folsom, SF. wwwpowerhousebar.com

DANNY TENAGLIA

The legendary big-room house DJ will wipe the floor with your happy, sweaty ass. Sat/20, 9pm-5am, \$20-\$28. Public Works, 161 Erie, SF. www.publicsf.com

FOLSOM UNIFORM PARTY

Infamous dyke bar the Lexington Club slays it every year with this fetish uniform shindig. DJs Jenna Riot and Andre pour on the jams. Sat/20, 3464 19th St. SF. www.lexingtonclub.com

DEVIANTS ADULT ARCADE

Crazy characters, insane decor, and wild post-Folsom dancing with original disco hunk Paul Parker, DJs Pareja from Argentina, The Black Madonna, Honey Soundsystem, more. Sun/21, 6pm-2am, \$30-\$50. Mezzanine, 444 Jessie, SF.

MEOW

www.bit.ly/1ph5Smb

A claws-out Mission party for scrappy-cute queer kids. With DJs Brontez Purnell, Carrie On Disco, a gaggle of burlesque performers like Kitty Von Quim, and hosts Rotimi Agbabiaka, Cle Torres, and Caitlin Donohue.

Sun/21, 6pm-2am, \$10. SubMission, 2183 Mission, SF. www.tinvurl.com/queermeowsf



TUE 9/30 KYTAMI

OPINION **SEPTEMBER 17 - 23, 2014** / **SFBG.COM** 19 NEWS FOOD + DRINK THE SELECTOR ARTS + CULTURE CLASSIFIEDS

MUSIC LISTINGS

WEDNESDAY 17

DANCE

Beaux: "BroMance: A Night Out for the Fellas," 9pm, free.

The Cafe: "Sticky Wednesdays," w/ DJ Mark

Andrus, 8pm, free.

Cat Club: "Bondage-A-Go-Go," w/ DJ Damon, Tomas Diablo, guests, 9:30pm, \$7-\$10. Club X: "Electro Pop Rocks," 18+ dance party,

9pm, \$10-\$20.

DNA Lounge: "Go Deep!," 18+ dance party, 9pm, \$10-\$15.

F8: "Housepitality," 9pm, \$5-\$10.
Lookout: "What?," 7pm, free.
Madrone Art Bar: "Rock the Spot," 9pm, free.
Make-Out Room: "Burn Down the Disco," w/ DJs 2shy-shy & Melt w/U, Third Wednesday of every month, 9pm, free.



WEDNESDAY SEP 17 8:30pm · \$12 · AA

THURSDAY SEP 18 8:30pm \$12/14 - 21+ TRANGE VINE OWN AND OUTLAWS

FRIDAY SEP 19 8:30PM \$10/12 121 BRENEFIT: A Benefit for Bren Mead of Still Flyin'
TRACK STAR
STILL FLYIN'
KIDS ON A CRIME SPREE
CRUEL SUMMER

SATURDAY SEP 20 8:30pm \$10/12 · 21+ assou Benedict SPLIT SCREENS

SUNDAY SEP 21 6pm : \$12/14 . AA Cancer Relief Benefit for Garth Petal

ALRUS

HOT LUNCH

BRUBAKER

GARTH'S RORY GALLAGHER TRIBUTE BAND

featuring Issaigh Mitchell featuring Isaiah Mitchell
DJs SASQUATCH BORRACHO & BLAKE DAVIS

TUESDAY SEP 23 8:30pm \$ AA SILENT COMEDY STRANGE VINE DOWN AND OUTLAWS



BOTTOM OF THE HILL

MatrixFillmore: "Reload," w/ DJ Big Bad Bruce,

Q Bar: "Booty Call," w/ Juanita More, 9pm, \$3.

HIP-HOP

Skylark Bar: "Mixtape Wednesday," w/ DJs Strategy, Junot, Herb Digs, & guests, 9pm, \$5.

Cafe Divine: Craig Ventresco & Meredith Axelrod, 7pm. free.

Amnesia: Gaucho, Eric Garland's Jazz Session, The Amnesiacs, 7pm, free. Balancoire: "Cat's Corner," 9pm, \$10.

Burritt Room: Terry Disley's Rocking Jazz Trio,

lazz Ristro at Les Inulins: Charles Unger Experience, 7:30pm, free.

Le Colonial: The Cosmo Alleycats featuring Ms. Emily Wade Adams, 7pm, free.

Level III: Sony Holland, Wednesdays-Fridays, 5-8nm free Revolution Cafe: Panique, Third Wednesday of

every month, 8:30pm, free/donation.

Savanna Jazz Club: Savanna Jazz Jam with Eric Tillman, 7pm, \$5.

Top of the Mark: Ricardo Scales, Wednesdays,

6:30-11:30pm, \$5.

INTERNATIONAL

Bissan Baobab: "Baobab!." timba dance party with DJ WaltDigz, 10pm, \$5. Cafe Cocomo: "Bachatalicious," w/ DJs Good Sho & Rodney, 7pm, \$5-\$10.

Boom Boom Room: "Soul Train Revival," w/ Ziek McCarter, 9:30pm, \$5.

Monarch: "Color Me Badd " coloring books and R&B jams with Matt Haze, DJ Alarm, Broke-Ass Stuart, guests, 5:30-9:30pm, free.

THURSDAY 18

ROCK

S.F. Eagle: Inferno of Joy, Flexx Bronco, 9pm Thee Parkside: The Vibrators. Point of View. 9pm, \$10.

DANCE

9/20

Abbey Tavern: DJ Schrobi-Girl, 10pm, free. Aunt Charlie's Lounge: "Tubesteak Connection," w/ DJ Bus Station John, 9pm, \$5-\$7. Beaux: "Twerk Thursdays," 9pm, free.



9/17 "WHISKEY WEDNESDAYS" \$5 PBR AND WHISKEY SHOT ALL NIGHT LONG

ALCOHOLACAUST PRESENTS: ZIPPER LIPS (SANTA ANA) THE RINDS (REC. REL.) 100 KEENS (REC. REL.) 10PM ONLY \$5

"SCHLITZ INDUSTRY NIGHT" \$4 SHOTS OF FERNET BRANCA, \$2 SCHLITZ BOTTLES, \$5 SHOTS BULLEIT BOURBON, \$3 STOLE

SHAKEY SHOTS "MOJITO MONDAYS" \$5 MOJITOS ALL DAY AND ASS-END HAPPY HOUR 11 P.M. TO 2 A.M. \$1 OFF DRAFT/WELL

9/23 "TEQUILA TWO-WHEELED TUESDAYS" \$6 SHOT OF TEQUILA WITH A CAN OF TECATE

BENDERS BAR & GRILL 806 S. Van Ness @ 19TH ★ 415.824.1800 * Mon-Thu 4PM-2AM ★ FRI-SUN 2PM-2AM ★ ★ WWW.BENDERSBAR.COM ★



The Cafe: "¡Pan Dulce!," 9pm, \$5. Cat Club: "Class of 1984," '80s night with DJs Damon, Steve Washington, Dangerous Dan, and guests, 9pm, \$6 (free before 9:30pm). **The Cellar:** "XO," 10pm, \$5.

Club X: "The Crib," 18+ LGBT dance party, 9:30pm, \$10.

Elbo Room: "Hi Life," w/ resident DJs Pleasuremaker & Izzy*Wize, 9:30pm, \$6. F8: "Beat Church " w/ resident D Is Nentune & Kitty-D, Third Thursday of every month, 10pm,

Infusion Lounge: "I Love Thursdays," 10pm, \$10. Madrone Art Bar: "Night Fever," 9pm, \$5 after 10nm

Mezzanine: Odesza, Hayden James,

Ambassadeurs, 8:30pm, \$18.

Raven: "1999," w/ VJ Mark Andrus, 8pm, free. Ruby Skye: "Torq," w/ Pegboard Nerds, Varien, 9nm \$15-\$25 advance

Trax: "Beats Reality: A Psychedelic Social," w/ resident DJs Justime & Jim Hopkins, 9pm, free. **Underground SF:** "Bubble," 10pm, free.

HIP-HOP

John Colins: "Future Flavas," w/ DJ Natural, 10pm, free.

Showdown: "Tougher Than Ice," w/ DJs Vin Sol, Ruby Red I, and Jeremy Castillo, 10pm **Skylark Bar:** "Peaches," w/ lady DJs DeeAndroid, Lady Fingaz, That Girl, Umami, Inkfat, and Andre, 10pm, free.

ACOUSTIC

Bazaar Cafe: Acoustic Open Mic, 7pm Plough & Stars: Tipsy House, Third Thursday of every month, 9pm, free,

The Pour House: Jimbo Scott & Grover Anderson, 7pm, free

Jazz Bistro at Les Joulins: Eugene Pliner Quartet with Tod Dickow, 7:30pm, free. Le Colonial: Steve Lucky & The Rhumba Bums,

Level III: Sony Holland, Wednesdays-Fridays,

The Royal Cuckon: Charlie Siebert & Chris Siebert, 7:30pm, free.

Savanna Jazz Club: Savanna Jazz Jam with Eric Tillman, 7pm, \$5.

Top of the Mark: Pure Ecstasy, 7:30pm, \$10.

INTERNATIONAL

Sheba Piano Lounge: Gary Flores & Descarga Caliente, 8pm

REGGAE

Pissed Off Pete's: Reggae Thursdays, w/ resident DJ Jah Yzer, 9pm, free.

50 Mason Social House: Bill Phillippe, 5:30pm,

The Saloon: Chris Ford, Third Thursday of every month, 4pm

COUNTRY

McTeague's Saloon: "Twang Honky Tonk," w/ Sheriff Paul, Deputy Saralynn, and Honky Tonk Henry, 7pm

The Parlor: "Honky Tonk Thursdays," w/ DJ Juan Burgandy, 9pm, free.

Make-Out Room: "In 'n' Out," w/ The Selecter DJ Kirk, 10pm, free

FRIDAY 19

DANCE

Amnesia: "KandyBar," Third Friday of every

month, 10pm, \$5. Beaux: "Manimal," 9pm The Cafe: "Boy Bar," 9pm, \$5.
The Cellar: "F.T.S.: For the Story," 10pm **The EndUp:** "Trade," 10pm, free before midnight. The Grand Nightclub: "We Rock Fridays," 9:30pm Infusion Lounge: "Flight Fridays," 10pm, \$20. Madrone Art Bar: "That '80s Show," w/ DJ Dave Paul, Third Friday of every month, 9pm, \$5. MatrixFillmore: "F-Style Fridays," w/ DJ Jared-F,

Mezzanine: Odesza, Hayden James, Ambassadeurs, 8:30pm, sold out.

OMG: "Deep Inside," 9pm, free. **Q Bar:** "Pump: Worq It Out Fridays," w/ resident DJ Christopher B, 9pm, \$3.
Underground SF: "Studio 3 AM," Third Friday of every month, 10pm, free.

HIP-HOP

EZ5: "Decompression," Fridays, 5-9pm John Colins: "Juicy," w/ resident DJ Mark Di Vita, Third Friday of every month, 10pm, free before

Showdown: "Fresh to Def Fridays: A Tribute to Yo! MTV Raps," w/ resident DJs Boom Bostic, Inkfat, and Hay Hay, Third Friday of every month,

ACOUSTIC

Mercury Cafe: Toshio Hirano, Third Friday of every month, 7:30pm, free, all ages. Plough & Stars: "Bluegrass Bonanza," Third Friday of every month, 9pm, \$6-\$10. The Sports Basement: "Breakfast with Enzo," w/ Enzo Garcia, 10am, \$5.

Bird & Beckett: The Scott Foster Group, Third Friday of every month, 5:30pm, \$10 suggested donation per adult.

Jazz Bistro at Les Joulins: Charles Unger Experience, 7:30pm, free.

Level III: Sony Holland, Wednesdays-Fridays, 5-8pm, free Top of the Mark: Black Market Jazz Orchestra,

9nm \$10 Zingari: Joyce Grant, 8pm, free.

INTERNATIONAL

Asiento: "Kulcha Latino," w/ resident selectors Stepwise, Ras Rican, and El Kool Kyle, Third Friday of every month, 9pm, free. **Bissap Baobab:** "Paris-Dakar African Mix Coupe

Decale," 10pm, \$5.

Cafe Cocomo: Taste Fridays, featuring local cuisine tastings, salsa bands, dance lessons, and more 7.30nm \$15 (free entry to natio) Pachamama Restaurant: Cuban Night with Fito Reinoso, 7:30 & 9:15pm, \$15-\$18. **Revolution Cafe:** Pangea Futbol Club, Third Friday of every month, 9:30pm Roccapulco Supper Club: Fuego Latino, 9pm

REGGAE

Gestalt Haus: "Music Like Dirt," 7:30pm, free.

FUNK

Amnesia: "Hella Tight," w/ resident DJs Vinnie Esparza, Jonny Deeper, & Asti Spumanti, Third Friday of every month, 10pm, \$5. Make-Out Room: "Loose Joints," w/ DJs

Centipede, Damon Bell, and Tom Thump, 10pm, \$5-\$10.

SOUL

Edinburgh Castle: "Soul Crush," w/ DJ Serious Leisure, 10pm, free.

The Knockout: "Oldies Night," W/ DJs Primo,

Daniel, Lost Cat, and friends, Third Friday of every month, 10pm, \$5.

SATURDAY 20

ROCK

The Independent: Son Lux, Helado Negro, 9pm, \$12-\$14

DANCE

Amnesia: "Rhythm Control," w/ resident DJs J-maz, Johnny Nunes, Jmontag, and more, Third Saturday of every month, 10pm, \$3-\$5. Cat Club: "New Wave City," w/ DJs Skip & Shindog, Third Saturday of every month, 9pm, \$7-\$12

DNA Lounge: "Bootie S.F.," 9pm, \$10-\$15. **The EndUp:** "The Show," w/ Ben Seagren, Dean Samaras, and guests, Third Saturday of every

Infusion Lounge: "Social Addiction," Third Saturday of every month, 10pm, \$20.

Lookout: "Bounce!," 9pm, \$3.

Madrone Art Bar: "Fringe," w/ DJs Blondie K & subOctave, Third Saturday of every month, 9pm, \$5 (free before 10pm).

Milk Bar: "The Queen Is Dead: A Tribute to the

Music of Morrissey & The Smiths," w/ DJ Mario Muse & guests, Third Saturday of every month,

Powerhouse: "Beatpig," Third Saturday of every month, 9pm

Rickshaw Stop: "Gameboi S.F.," w/ VJ LaRock, Third Saturday of every month, 9:30pm,

Treasure Island: "Magnitude," official Folsom Street Fair dance party with D Is Tom Stephan & Tony Moran, 9pm, \$100-\$125.

HIP-HOP

111 Minna Gallery: "Shine," Third Saturday of

every month, 10pm
Abbey Tavern: "The Get Down," w/ resident DJs Bluz & Relic, Third Saturday of every month, 9:30pm, free.

Beaux: "Swagger Like Us," LGBT hip-hop night with resident DJs davO & Boyfriend, Third Saturday of every month, 9pm

John Colins: "The Bump," w/ The Whooligan, Third Saturday of every month, 10pm, free

before 11pm The Knockout: "The Booty Bassment," w/ DJs Dimitri Dickinson & Ryan Poulsen, Third Saturday of every month, 10pm, \$5. Showdown: "Purple," w/ resident DJs ChaunceyCC & Party Pablo, Third Saturday of

Skylark Bar: "Night Swim," w/ resident DJ Mackswell, Third Saturday of every month,

ACOUSTIC

Atlas Cafe: Craig Ventresco and/or Meredith Axelrod, Saturdays, 4-6pm, free.

Jazz Bistro at Les Joulins: Bill "Doc" Webster & Jazz Nostalgia, 7:30pm, free. Sheba Piano Lounge: The Robert Stewart Experience, 9pm

INTERNATIONAL

1015 Folsom: "Pura," 9pm, \$20. Bissap Baobab: "Paris-Dakar African Mix Coupe " 10pm, \$5. Make-Out Room: "El SuperRitmo." w/ D.Js Roger

Mas & El Kool Kyle, 10pm, \$5-\$10. Pachamama Restaurant: Eddy Navia & Pachamama Band, 8pm, free, Revolution Cafe: Go Van Gogh, Third Saturday of

every month, 9pm, free/donation. **Space 550:** "Club Fuego," 9:30pm

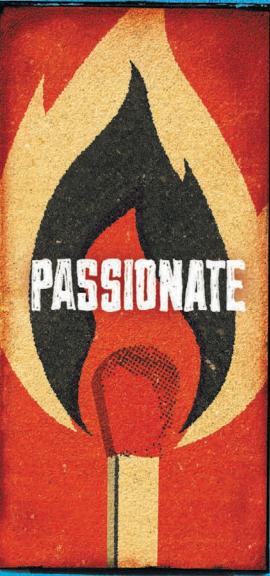
BLUES The Saloon: Tony Perez & Second Hand Smoke Third Saturday of every month, 4pm

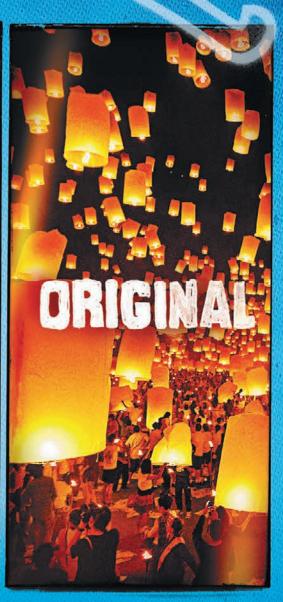
CONTINUES ON PAGE 22 >>

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SUNDAY 9/21
THE FUTURE OF COMEDY SHOWCASE

MUSIC LISTINGS

CONT>>

SOUL

Elbo Room: "Saturday Night Soul Party," w/ DJs Lucky, Phengren Oswald, and Paul Paul, Third Saturday of every month, 10pm, \$10 (\$5 in

SUNDAY 21

DANCE

The Cellar: "Replay Sundays," 9pm, free.
The Edge: "'80s at 8," w/ DJ MC2, 8pm
Elbo Room: "Dub Mission," Sunday night excursions into the echo-drenched outer realms of dub with resident DJ Sep and guests, 9pm, \$6 (free before 9:30pm).

The EndUp: "Sundaze," 1pm, free before 3pm F8: "Stamina," w/ DJs Lukeino, Jamal, and guests, 10pm, free.

guests, 10pm, free.
The Knockout: "Sweater Funk," 10pm, free.
Lookout: "Jock," Sundays, 3-8pm, \$2.
MatrixFillmore: "Bounce," w/ DJ Just, 10pm
Mezzanine: "Deviants," official Folsom Street Fair closing party with Hard French & Honey Soundsystem DJs, 9pm, \$30 advance. **Monarch**: "Werd," 9pm, \$5-\$10.

The Parlor: "Sunday Sessions," w/ DJ Marc deVasconcelos, 9pm, free. Q Bar: "Gigante," 8pm, free.

S.F. Eagle: "Disco Daddy," w/ DJ Bus Station John, Third Sunday of every month, 7pm, \$5. **Temple:** "Sunset Arcade," 18+ dance party & game night, 9pm, \$10.

HIP-HOP

Boom Boom Room: "Return of the Cypher," 9:30pm, free.

ACOUSTIC

Chieftain: Traditional Irish Session, 6pm Hotel Utah: The Afternoon Delight Social Band, Third Sunday of every month, 1pm, free.

The Lucky Horseshoe: Bernal Mountain Bluegrass

Jam, 4pm, free.

Madrone Art Bar: Spike's Mic Night, Sundays, 4-8pm, free

JAZZ

Jazz Bistro at Les Joulins: Bill "Doc" Webster & Jazz Nostalgia, 7:30pm, free.

Madrone Art Bar: "Sunday Sessions," 10pm,

The Riptide: The Cottontails, Third Sunday of every month, 7:30pm, free.

The Royal Cuckoo: Lavay Smith & Chris Siebert, 7:30pm, free.

Savanna Jazz Club: Savanna Jazz Jam with David

Byrd, 7pm, \$5

INTERNATIONAL

50 Mason Social House: "Sabor Sundays," w/ Jesus Diazy Su QBA, Third Sunday of every

month, 6pm, \$10. Atmosphere: "Hot Bachata Nights," w/ DJ El

Guapo, 5:30pm, \$10-\$20.

Bissap Baobab: "Brazil & Beyond," 6:30pm, free. Caña Cuban Parlor & Cafe: "La Havana," 4pm Revolution Cafe: Balkan Jam Night, 8:30pm Thirsty Bear Brewing Company: "The Flamenco Room," 7:30 & 8:30pm

Amnesia: HowellDevine, Third Sunday of every month, 8:30pm, \$7-\$10.

The Saloon: Blues Power, 4pm; Silvia C, Third

Sunday of every month, 9:30pm
Sheba Piano Lounge: Bohemian Knuckleboogie, 8pm, free.
Swig: Sunday Blues Jam with Ed Ivey, 9pm

MONDAY 22

Warfield Theatre: The Australian Pink Floyd Show, 8pm, \$35-\$55.





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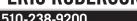
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MUSIC LISTINGS

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DANCE

DNA Lounge: "Death Guild," 18+ dance party with DJs Decay, Joe Radio, Melting Girl, & guests, 9:30pm, \$3-\$5.

Q Bar: "Wanted," w/ DJs Key&Kite and Richie Panic, 9pm, free.

ACOUSTIC

Amnesia: The Pick Bluegrass Jam, Fourth Monday of every month, 6pm, free; The Earl Brothers, 9pm, free.

Fiddler's Green: Terry Savastano, 9:30pm, free/

Hotel Utah: Open Mic with Brendan Getzell, 8nm free

Osteria: "Acoustic Bistro," 7pm, free. The Saloon: Peter Lindman, 4pm

JAZZ

Jazz Bistro at Les Joulins: Eugene Pliner Quartet with Tod Dickow, 7:30pm, free,

Le Colonial: Le Jazz Hot, 7pm, free.

Sheba Piano Lounge: City Jazz Instrumental Jam Session, 8pm

REGGAE

Skylark Bar: "Skylarking," w/ I&I Vibration, 10pm, free.

BLUES

Elite Cafe: "Fried Chicken & Blues," 6pm The Saloon: The Bachelors, 9:30pm

Madrone Art Bar: "M.O.M. (Motown on Mondays)," w/ DJ Gordo Cabeza & Timoteo Gigante, 8pm, \$3 after 9pm

SAN FRANCISCO

WED, SEP 17 **ELLIS & DELFEAYO MARSALIS**

TUESDAY 23

ROCK

The Independent: Kopecky Family Band, Avid Dancer, 8pm, \$12.

DANCE

Aunt Charlie's Lounge: "High Fantasy," w/ DJ Viv, Myles Cooper, & guests, 10pm, \$2. **Boom Boom Room:** "Time Warp Tuesdays," w/ DJ Madison, 9pm, free.

Monarch: "Soundpieces," 10pm, free-\$10. **Q Bar:** 456 Castro, San Francisco. "Switch," w/ DJs Jenna Riot & Andre, 9pm, \$3. Underground SF: "Shelter," 10pm, free

HIP-HOP

Double Dutch: "Takin' It Back Tuesdays," w/ DJs Mr. Murdock & Roman Nunez, Fourth Tuesday of every month, 10pm, free.

JAZZ

Burritt Room: Terry Disley's Rocking Jazz Trio, 6pm, free.

Cafe Divine: Chris Amberger, 7pm Jazz Bistro at Les Joulins: Clifford Lamb, Mel

Butts, and Friends, 7:30pm, free, Le Colonial: Lavay Smith & Her Red Hot Skillet

Lickers, 7pm
Revolution Cafe: The Pleasure Palace, Fourth

Tuesday of every month, 9pm Verdi Club: "Tuesday Night Jump," w/ Stompy

Jones, 9pm, \$10-\$12.

Wine Kitchen: Hot Club Pacific, 7:30pm Yoshi's San Francisco: Tommy Igoe Big Band,

INTERNATIONAL

Cafe Cocomo: Salsa Tuesday, w/ DJs Good Sho & El de la Clave, 8:30pm, \$10.

The Cosmo Bar & Lounge: Conga Tuesdays, 8pm,

F8: "Underground Nomads," w/ rotating resident DJs Amar, Sep, and Dulce Vita, plus guests, 9pm, \$5 (free before 9:30pm)

REGGAE

Milk Bar: "Bless Up," w/ Jah Warrior Shelter Hi-Fi. 10pm

Make-Out Room: "Lost & Found," w/ DJs Primo, Lucky, and guests, 9:30pm, free. sfbG







ARTS + CULTURE









THE FUTURE OF PORN IS HERE.

GUARDIAN PHOTO OF MAITRESSE MADELINE (TOP) AND LORELEI LEE AT KINK.COM BY MATTHEW REAMER; MAKEUP BY SARINA MARTINEZ; STYLED BY KARYN HUNT; LIGHTING CONSULTING BY PONY GOLD

BY JOE FITZGERALD RODRIGUEZ ioe@sfbg.com

SEX ISSUE In the future, humankind will get down and dirty with pixelated playmates. And that future is nearer than one might think.

A year or so from now, the Oculus Rift Virtual Reality headset and other similar devices will hit the market. For the price of an Xbox, you can slip a pair of bulky goggles around your face, pop on surround-sound headphones and find yourself in a near photo-realistic world of electronic imagination.

So far, most companies on the virtual reality bandwagon are video game developers and a handful of movie studios. Many of those developers are, of course, in Silicon Valley and San Francisco. Making a bet on the future, Oculus VR was recently acquired by Facebook for \$2 billion.

"Oculus has the chance to create the most social platform ever," Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg said in a press statement, predicting it will "change the way we work, play, and communicate." Oculus VR declined to be interviewed for this article, but it goes without saying that most technological advancements, from the printed page to the Internet, have also advanced depictions of sex.

The dawn of humans showcased cave drawings of great hunts and frightening predators, but even cave paintings from the upper Paleolithic era depict erotic early homo sapiens. The new virtual reality wave will be no different: There will be porn.

In fact, thanks largely to collaboration between companies in San Francisco, Silicon Valley, and Los Angeles, it's already arrived.

LIVE NUDE POLYGONS!

Southern California is a porn hub, so it's little surprise that Los Angeles-based SugarDVD has long leaped into digital frontiers. It's one of the few porn purveyors with apps available for the Playstation and Xbox video game consoles.

A streaming porn app for \$7.95 a month was the wave of the future two years ago, but in the fast-paced world of adult entertainment technology, it's now as futuristic as a hand-cranked peep show. The next, ahem, "big thing" in adult entertainment is viewing porn stars in 3D video games, whom you can fuck from a first-person perspective. Because why watch porn, when you can be in it?

SugarDVD is investing in this future, company spokesperson Rebecca Bolen told us. Its interactive porn is still in the planning phases.



VR headsets such as the Oculus Rift aren't available to consumers yet, but the company quickly sold over 100,000 development kits, which are essentially early versions of the VR goggles software developers use to program games and applications.

So when SugarDVD asked for volunteers to try out early versions of its VR porn offerings, there were thousands with the means to do so.

"It's been insane, we've had so many people asking to be part of our beta test," Bolen said. It's easy to see why. Even now, solo enthusiasts have crafted early, crude, and primitive-looking sex video games for Oculus Rift. But SugarDVD's technological efforts are on par with Hollywood movies.

The company hired two actresses and covered them in motion capture sensors. Sophisticated cameras pick up the women's movements as they gyrate and grind. The women were then photo scanned in 3D, capturing every curve of their bodies, every nick and every scar on their skin. Video game programmers (some in San Francisco) combined the high-resolution scans and mo-capped movements to create photorealistic virtual doppelgangers.

Welcome to the age of interactive and customizable porn stars.

Let's call one hypothetical 3D-scanned actress "Eve." Don't like Eve's blond locks? Make her a brunette. Do you like your ladies tall? She's now a six-foot-five Amazon. Do you like big butts, and cannot lie? Dramatize her derriere. Costumes, body shape, coloring, attitude, action—the possibilities are nearly infinite—it's a kinkster's dream come true. (And speaking of which, we did check with local pornographers at Kink.com, and CEO Peter Acworth told us he had no VR porn plans in the works, yet.)

But kink aside, Bolen said the most requests SugarDVD gets are for real women, ones her company's customers dream of touching. Soon, they'll be able to.

"There's a lot of requests for certain porn actresses," Bolen told us. So, real, living women's digital bodies may soon become commodities, distributed and sought after as animatronic virtual reality playmates.

But what legal protections exist for porn actresses who become pseudo digital sex workers?

Bolen told us models sign contracts specific to virtual reality work, legally restricting the ways their animated bodies can be articulated in the digital world. SugarDVD also is committed to protecting actresses' rights, she said, and are investing in

new means of digital security.

The threat of body piracy looms. Even at this nascent stage in virtual reality, websites cater to users interested in swapping interactive porn experiences. Links to steamy smut for Oculus Rift, mostly of women, are posted on the xxxVR-sites sub-Reddit every day. But lest one feel there aren't enough sexy boys in this equation, fear not. The top post on Reddit/r/OculusNSFW as of this writing is a game where the objective is to ride a lithe blue-haired anime boy named Kaito, to watch him moan and make him come.

"It's meant to be played with, a 'toy,' since riding an invisible erection isn't fun in my opinion," the creator, ThePotatoChampion, wrote in a Reddit post. It's a fair point.

Kaito is a digital cartoon character, but many VR experiences swapped on Reddit involve real women, digitized. Few activists we found have yet stepped into this murky realm of virtual body rights. Those we talked to were conflicted as how to react to the ownership of manipulable digital bodies. It's conceivable that awareness of this issue will rise after virtual reality porn becomes more mainstream. That day is not far off.

CARNAL CONTROLLERS

Japanese company Illusion built an early sex-video game prototype using Oculus Rift that shook the Internet for a day. The company used a robotic arm to hold a Tenga toy (a Japanese fleshlight), which sheaths the player's penis. As you look through the VR goggles at your virtual body, a wide-eyed 3D anime girl strokes a virtual fleshlight up your polygonal phallus with dainty hands. She giggles, as the mechanical arm jerks and strokes your actual cock in perfect synchronicity with her movements.

Stateside, sex toy companies already provide multitudes of mechanical vibrators and gizmos. Even SugarDVD has a its own robotic sex toy arsenal.

"We have almost every toy in existence," Bolen told us. Even though its current VR porn plans don't involve hardware, yet, it's not impossible, she said. "It wouldn't be very hard to implement, the technology is already there."

And that technology is ever-evolving. Bob Dobbs runs OculusRiftPorn. com, a VR porn enthusiast blog. He believes the wave of the future is interactivity.

The most popular virtual reality porn, he said, "will be games that incorporate head and positional track-

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ARTS + CULTURE SEX

ing to intensify the experience. It's really something that (people) will have to experience for themselves."

Dobbs had a point. We couldn't exactly write about virtual reality without donning a pair of goggles. Luckily, Silicon Valley is just down the street.

REALER THAN REAL

Silicon Valley Virtual Reality is a meetup group led by VR enthusiasts, developers, entrepreneurs, hackers, and artists. It's like a comic book convention geared expressly to a virtual reality crowd, only most involved are makers, not consumers.

The Guardian swung down to its meetup at the Hacker Dojo on Sept. 11. Though there was no porn, we heard there would be virtual reality demos aplenty. We were not disappointed. Save for one table stacked



with pizza and copious cans of Mountain Dew, Oculus Rifts circled the room. As a nerd of the video game variety, this writer may have drooled at the sight, just a bit.

At the booth of VR company Leap Motion, an employee strapped an Oculus Rift to my face. The start-up's claim to fame is an infrared sensor that rests at the front of VR goggles, tracking hand motions and incorporating them into virtual reality. The software worked as advertised.

I held a roiling bubble of electricity in front of my nose, and my hands lit sparks as they circled its curves. The visual of mini-lightning strikes strobing my hands somehow convinced my brain that I felt heat. I yanked them away in momentary fright.

Just imagine the possibilities for touching virtual sex partners in games, I thought.

But still, this wasn't the full VR experience, just a demo of its interactive possibilities. I needed to see a world in action. Right nearby I heard a familiar whirr — the sound of a light saber in motion.

Across the room I spotted an Oculus Rift-wearing pseudo-swordsman, miming the moves of a Jedi. I leaped over at light speed.

With the goggles strapped on, I

found myself in a white space, akin to Neo's journey into The Matrix. The Sixense employee standing near me (in the real world) told me, "Turn around." As I spun I spotted two video game controllers resembling saber hilts, like fist-sized letter Ds. I reached out in the virtual world and grabbed them by the flat side, and to my surprise, felt them. The physical controllers in front of me were detected and replicated by the computer program. Instantly they transformed into hands, and I suddenly found myself on the deck of a sci-fi spaceship (which loosely resembled Darth Vader's Star Destroyer). A low, circular metal shelf held six light saber hilts, looking as real as any toy replica I've seen. I reached out with both hands, and grabbed two.

"Whirrr." A button press caused blades of light to spring from the hilts, recalling Obi-Wan's fondness of "an elegant weapon for a more civilized age." I smiled. When a familiar spherical robot swung into my view, I smiled wider.

The bot blasted me from above, and I instinctively swung my arm to deflect the laser blasts. I swung again, and again, as the short red lasers burst by. In the real world I looked like a moron, flinging my arms wildly while wielding toys. In



the world of the Oculus Rift, I was a Jedi knight, swords sizzling with heat I swear I could feel on my face.

The barrage of laser blasts zoomed by my head with depth as real as life. When the spherical bot swooped too close, I swung my blue and green lightsabers, crisscrossing into its equator from both sides. I felt the sabers shudder as they scissored through it, and a shower of sparks nearly singed my pixelated hair. I was sweating and panting, exhilarated.

It wasn't sex, but it wasn't far off. And the point was made: If the Oculus Rift could convince me I was Luke Skywalker, I could easily imagine the potency of a virtual Jenna Jameson.

Suddenly, my demo was over. As I pulled the goggles from my face, it felt like peeling a dream away from my eyes. Reality was jarring.

My head swirled with questions,

suddenly more convinced of the tide change virtual reality could bring for sex, for relationships, even, if you'll pardon the melodrama, the human condition.

The gathered virtual reality enthusiasts were clearly passionate to change the world, and to democratize this new technology. It would not be fair to say they weren't considerate, social thinkers. But though they deftly discussed shared hub worlds, controller latency, and haptic feedback, my questions about virtual reality's wide-ranging effects on human carnal interaction caused many furrowed brows, brush-offs, and shrugs of indifference.

Eventually I found one person who shared my concerns, who preferred not to be named because she works in the community. Coincidentally or not, she was also one of the few women at the meetup.

"These guys easily talk about every aspect of the technology," she told me, "but it's much harder for them to talk about people."

So it goes. From cell phones to the Internet, we've leaped first, and reached for answers later. And soon we'll do the same for this new virtual world, where fantasies from *Star Wars* to sex are rendered real. **SFBG**



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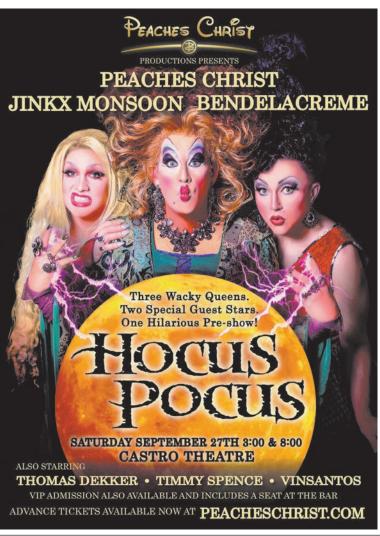
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ARTS + CULTURE SEX

POLLY HITS STORES ON MON/22.

Polly's sexual (r)evolution

------The queen of Kinky Salon pens a raw and revealing new memoir

BY STEVEN T. JONES

steve@sfbg.com

SEX ISSUE There's been more than one Polly, the author and namesake of the new memoir *Polly: Sex Culture Revolutionary.* That may be true for each of us as we engage with different interests and identities during our sexual development, but Polly has distilled her psychosexual journey down to three distinct personas that she assumed along the way.

The Polly I've known for years is Polly Superstar, the fabulous hostess of Kinky Salon parties in her luscious and sprawling former Mission Control pad, community-minded sparkle pony in the Burning Man world, and a mindful feminist promoter of various sex-positive entrepreneurial ventures in San Francisco (including this independently published book, which took a massive Kickstarter cam-

paign to get into print). But the Polly I know passed through two previous Pollys — the Polly Whittaker she was born as in London in 1974 and the Polly Pandemonium that she became when she arrived in San Francisco 15 years ago on Folsom Street Fair weekend — on the way to becoming the woman she is today. And that woman was feeling very vulnerable as we met for lunch recently.

"I'm terrified," she told me as she prepared to speak at Bawdy Storytelling that night and anticipated the general release of her book on Sept. 22. "I feel really exposed, I wonder what my motivation was to be so raw and open with this."

A book that began four years ago as essentially a sassy guidebook for the Kinky Salon events that have now spread to another half-dozen cities around the world at some point turned far more serious and personal. Sure, we get to follow Polly through her crazy sexual antics, soaking in the sexy world of Mission Control.

"The crisp silhouettes of their bodies showed every detail: how the woman on all fours took his cock in her mouth, how the second guy traced his finger around his lover's nipple, how the woman tucked underneath gently explored the body above her," Polly wrote about a scene from Kinky Salon. "There were no wanted wandering hands, no staring eyes making me self-conscious. I became overwhelmed with a sense of pride. Fuck yes. This feels right. It feels good. These are my tribe — these crazy pleasure seekers. These brave pioneers of love."

But those aren't the "raw" bits that Polly referred to. No, as she wrote this book, Polly came to place her father's slow and painful death from a brain tumor while she was a teenager at the center of the narrative, an event that propelled her subsequent sexual journey, for good or ill. She sought comfort and pleasure in the pain of the London BDSM scene, continuing that path here in San Francisco before morphing her fetish parties into sex parties that were more artsy and playful. Yet this sexual superstar

still couldn't achieve orgasms with her partners, a secret source of shame before she dealt with it more openly and honestly, helping other women along the way.

This memoir is less a wild tell-all by a high-profile libertine than intensely human story about a woman raised in a sexually liberated household (her mom was a sex therapist, her dad a hot-air balloonist, many of their friends swingers) who nonetheless struggles with her own sexual identity and ambitions against the backdrop of personal tragedy and smaller setbacks.

Polly relays and celebrates San Francisco's storied history as the center of the American sexual revolution, from the old Barbary Coast days through the North Beach strip clubs, free love in the Haight-Ashbury, and gay liberation in the Castro, to the AIDS crisis, rise of BDSM, and creative ways of expressing sexuality.

But even for Polly and others who make their sexuality such a central part of their lives and personal identities, sexuality is still a nuanced, evolving continuum that regularly raises challenging questions and issues.

issue, and it's at the core of the cultural shift that is happening around sexuality," Polly said of the delicate balance between female sexual empowerment — which she's all about — and sexual objectification, which this

"It's a complicated, really complicated,

Growing up in the fetish scene and becoming a latex fashion designer, Polly can happily play the alluring sex kitten, as long as it feels playful and fun. But she's quick to tear into scenes or situations that display women as sexual objects just to turn the boys on

feminist strongly resists.

or sell products.

"I think one of the biggest problems on the planet is the sexual objectification of women," she told us, noting the fine line she's walking as she promotes a sex book with deeper themes. For example, at her book launch party, "We're going to have a burlesque show, but you're

And even today, with her Kinky Salon community taking center-stage in her book, that community has been uprooted by the same forces of gentrification and displacement that are roiling the rest of the city (the monthly rent for their Mission Control space tripled after they got ousted).

also going to get the lecture about sexual objectification."

"The sexual revolution didn't happen in Oakland, it happened in San Francisco, and we are part of that lineage," Polly tells us, noting that Kinky Salon, now rotating among temporary underground spaces, is still having a hard time finding a new home. "If Kinky Salon has to move to Oakland, that will be telling of the state of San Francisco sex culture." SFBG

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BY KRISSY ELIOT

culture@sfbg.com

SEX ISSUE I never liked anything in my ass until I spent a couple hours with Charlie Glickman. I met him at a party in Oakland while I was complaining about 20-something guys and their tendency to try to spear my anus with their dicks. Having spent most of my life in suburban America, I was only exposed to boys who had nothing but Internet porn and impatience, so even though I'd been interested in trying butt stuff, I never had the opportunity. I was close to giving up hope.

So in a small huddle of party goers, I voiced my desperation for someone who knew how to touch an asshole. I needed an expert. A hero.

"You know I wrote a book on that, right?" Glickman chimed in, holding his paper plate of vegetable kabobs out in front of him. He had a confident grin. So a few weeks later, I gave him the chance to back it up.

I didn't know there were such things as sexological bodyworkers. But apparently, there are people certified by the state of California to stick their fingers inside of you and figure out why you can't come as hard as you'd like. Glickman is one of those people. Don't get it twisted, though: Bodyworkers are like private tutors for people who want to have better sex and experience more pleasure in their bodies. Their aim is to

teach. They're not prostitutes.

------Two fingers in the ass ain't bad

A few weeks post-party, I was sitting in his office, a small room with a window, a couch, and a massage table draped in a white sheet. Before I arrived I'd spoken on the phone with him about what to expect during the session and had filled out an intake form about my sexual history. We sat on the couch and talked about how we could do anal massage for relaxation only, but we could also do an erotic massage (with orgasms), if I so chose. And I did indeed choose.

He took my hand. It was time to practice consent.

"Tell me to take my hands off you," Glickman said.

So I did. Then I told him to put them back. This was his way of showing me I had control over what happened in the session. I wasn't worried.

He instructed me to sit on the massage table and told me he was going to teach me to breathe through my ass, which meant pushing out with my butt hole.

"I want you to try to kiss the table with your anus when you inhale," Glickman said. He breathed in and out with me as my asshole made out with the table's surface. My body relaxed with each breath of my badonk.

I took off my clothes and lay face down on the massage table, wondering if he saw the pimple next to my nipple. I shrugged. This guy probably gets poop on his gloves. My zit is the least of his worries.

If you think it's strange that I'd put myself in such a compromising position after having so many bad experiences in the past, I don't blame you. It's not like I forgot the burning sensation of many a helmet head diving into my foxhole. So why risk putting myself through more misery?

Though some may see my tenacious try-try again attitude as ignorant, I'd like to see my curiosity not as something to kill the cat, but something to nurture the sex kitten within. If all the women who had endured some kind of sexual abuse just closed their legs and asses up for good, the human race would probably be doomed. The world needs brave ladies.

Plus, I came to San Francisco to try the things that small Maryland towns can't offer. I came here to do the things other women don't have the courage to try. I came here to be the ray of sexual hope in the dark hole that is this universe.

So there I was, ass out on the table, ready to take one for humanity.

Glickman rubbed me down with some coconut oil and massaged me a bit before putting on a pair of purple, non-latex gloves. He asked me if it was okay if he touched my ass. I gave him an "Mhm."

Glickman ran his finger around the outside of my asshole for awhile to get my ass to relax, explaining that the external sphincter muscles were the ones I could control. After asking if I was ready, he started to rub the inside, telling me that he was touching the internal sphincter muscles, which I had *no* control over.

"Is that why this feels like I'm taking a shit?" I asked.

"It can mimic that sensation," he replied.

The littlest movement of his finger created huge waves of feeling in my butt. Sometimes, without warning, my ass would clamp down defensively on his finger like a bear trap. The idea that dudes just wanted to immediately cram their dicks into that tiny hole became even more unbelievable as Glickman moved his finger inside of me. I wanted to smack all those dumb 20-somethings upside their heads. Like, what the fuck, guys?

We did the relaxing anal massage for awhile, and Glickman asked me if I wanted the session to get erotic. I was down. So I flipped over onto my back.

He handed me a mirror and I held it between my legs so he could show me what he was doing. He did things that no man or woman had ever done to me, and he taught me to do them to myself. (By the way, there's this particular way of rubbing the insides of the outer labia that makes your crotch freak out in a good way. FREAK...OUT!)

All of it felt so good that before I knew it, I was ready for a finger all the way in my ass. Then there were fingers in my vagina. Then there were fingers on my clitoris. Then there were TWO fingers in my ass. It felt like there were fingers everywhere. "How many fingers does this guy have?" I thought, as I had a bunch of big, sweaty orgasms.

When the session was over, he left me to bask in the aftermath of coming a lot. I slowly sat up and stared through the back window at a few construction dudes throwing lumber into a truck in the parking lot below. I felt completely relaxed and grounded in my body. My hands and feet tingled. I got up to take a piss.

So now I know that I can have an orgasm with something in my ass, but only when someone is stimulating my cooch. (The clitoris will always be the MVP.) Ass play isn't a hopeless venture, but any guys who try to rip me a new one certainly are.

As I slinked out of the bathroom and curled up on the couch, Glickman said I looked like a cat who'd eaten something delicious. I nodded and smiled, and he had a look of pride, like he'd saved a stray in need. He proved that fingers in the ass ain't bad — I took two for humanity. SFBG

You can read Krissy Eliot's Head First column every Thursday on the Guardian's Sex SF blog (www.sfbg.com/sexsf) and read her past work at www.krissyeliot.com.



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Naught Bits

references fly. to Become a Professional Dominant, and "It's a Trap!"

even kinksters can make Star Wars jokes) are some of the classes being taught at BondCon's location in the SF Armory, But should you want to skip kinkschool and don your leather post-haste, the BondCon Ball is an "exclusive party for BDSM enthusiasts" where fetish attire is, of course, encouraged, and demonstrations of

bondage will abound. www.bondcon.com

Our Sex Issue cover models, Maitresse Madeline and Lorelei Lee = both of whom host kinky dominatrix webcam shows for Kink.com — hauled in a record-breaking \$42,000 each for a single show. The money itself is part of the sex play: patrons bid higher and higher as a latexclad dominatrix crosses her legs on camera, her stare demanding servitude. "It's not only that they're willing to pay for this because they can get what they want, when they want," Mistress Madeleine says on Kink's Behind the Kink video series. "They're paying for this relationship with a performer. It's very intimate, it's one-on-one." There's

money raised during a domi- $\mathsf{natrix}\,\mathsf{cam}\,\mathsf{shoot}\,\mathsf{--}\,\mathsf{yet}\,\mathsf{--}\,\mathsf{but}$ the staggering dollar amount gained quite a bit of attention in January, when the hour long auction was held.

no Guinness World Record for

DIY S&M •

John Huxley's **The** Artisan's Book of Fetishcraft: Patterns and Instructions for Creating Professional Fetishwear, Restraints and Sensory Equipment

(Greenery Press) isn't only a step-by-step guide for creating high-quality fetishwear; it's a call to assert your own creative control over your innermost desires. Huxley recommends readers use the book's patterns and templates - which can be adjusted to any shape and size for a precise fit — as a jumping-off point to customize their fetishwear and create a personalized identity and experience. Chapters include Clothing, Leather, Restraints, Sensory Deprivation, Pleasure, and Pain. Tool requirements vary by project, but most require a sewing machine. \$27.95 paperback; also available at the SF Public Library

ON THE ROPES

A burning question for the banjo-playing dominant: Where can you learn Hillbilly Hojojitsu? The country-flavored twist on the Japanese art of rope restraint is just one of the offerings at BondCon, a local, pansexual bondage convention going down Thu/18-Sun/21. Threesome Tips, Grappling and Takedowns for Submission Play, How

FETISHCRAFT

Playful Scenes and Non-Bondage Predicaments (because

Born amid World War II with the unwieldy name of Armin Hagen Freiherr von Hoyningen-Huene, studly **Peter Berlin** grew up to become a photographer who always had access to his favorite subject: himself. (He was also a selftaught fashion designer who specialized in crafting outfits that accentuated his Greek god-esque physique.) In the 1970s, he moved to San Francisco and starred in porn classics Nights in Black Leather (1973) and That Boy (1974),

which he also wrote and directed; he was also photographed by Robert Mapplethorpe and Andy Warhol. 2005 doc That Man: Peter Berlin brought renewed interest to his self-portraits, which will be displayed at Magnet in the Castro throughout October. Don't miss "Peter Berlin Talks!" (Oct. 18), which promises to cover "his favorite subject ... SEX." www.magnetsf.org

ZBORN AGAIN •

"Expect glitter, expect Twitter (don't expect Twitter), expect foul language and talking about dicks, expect body dysmorphia, but like in the opposite direction. The greatest expectation, however, should be all-killer-no-filler face-melting community building," says Greg Der Ananian, lead singer of energetic homo-punk band **Zbörnak**, of the group's two appearances this week. Opening Sat/20 for !!! and Jello Biafra in the SF Eagle's outdoor lot (5pm, \$20, 12th Street and Harrison, SF; www.sf-eagle.com), and kicking things off 11am, Sun/21 on main stage of Folsom Street Fair (10th Street and Howard, SF; www.folsomstreetfair.com), the fearsome foursome will surely launch into recent, tooHot local notes on sex, Folsom, fetish fashion, bondage, and beyond

catchy hit "Dikpix" while letting the *Golden Girls*

ON THE LAMB •

Folsom Street Fair organizers made a surprise announcement last week: giant, sheep-shaped Burning Man art car BAAAHS (Big Ass Amazingly Awesome Homosexual Sheep) would make an appearance at this year's dance stage. Yes, you enter from the rear — and watch your head near those cannily placed disco balls. www.baaahs.org

SURPRISE! QUEERS.

In the early 2000s, Guerilla Queer Bar was a joyous, ragtag event that imported flambovant queers into stalwartly heterosexual areas like the Marina for some community-building culture clash (and occasional recruitment). Now, the founders of GQB have brought it back, in a national form called Pop-Up Gay Bar, which uses e-mail notifications to let participants know when and where the next pop-up pops up. "We're letting it develop organically outside SF, since we noticed that GQB was different in each city it spread to." says Brian McConnell, who

launched the new effort with Sister Selma Soul. Yes, there is a leather-themed one planned for an unsus-

pecting straight bar during Folsom Weekend sign up at the site for more info. www.popupgaybar.com



sexy — that's the intent of publishers Melissa and David Beaulieu. So far they've been successful. Issue two is on stands now, with 92 pages of art, culture writing, and gorgeous centerfolds (like the elegant Samantha Leon, pictured). The magazine is available at 22 Bay Area locations, including Green Apple Books and Modern Times. Belle SF's journalism is also sometimes produced by its models, like a recent article on mail-order brides. Between the centerfolds and the journalism, most of what you'll see is a celebration of beautiful, smart locals.

HUNG-CRAFTED •

Quite possibly nothing could be more "San Francisco" than the crowd funded, locally made, sustainably sourced, rainbow-colored, hand-crotcheted fetish harness known as Yarness. Available in three kicky styles, in a seemingly infinite array of color combinations, the Yarness combines artisanal craftiness and sexy style with

a welcome bit of winking humor. "Yarness came from my urge to plug into the leather scene on my own terms," says creator Ryan Crowder. "I can be a reluctant exhibitionist, and when I put on a Yarness. I just went to town. I felt fancy!" Hook one up at Yarness.me, or look for the eye-popping Yarness booth at

Folsom Street Fair. Sun/21.



Our city's newest nudie magazine, Belle SF, is

tasteful smut by locals, for locals. The full-color glossy is reminiscent of early Playboy, a throwback to an era when Photoshop was the name of the place you got your filmed developed. Lighting and props are minimal, and women appear naturally

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SISTER ACT: BREDA (ANNE DARRAGH), ADA (BETH WILMURT), AND CLARA (TRISH MULHOLLAND) PHOTO BY PAK HAN



Family fish fry

BY ROBERT AVILA arts@sfbg.com

THEATER Ireland's exceptional Enda Walsh may have gained wider attention and a bigger paycheck for his stage adaptation of indie film *Once*, but his real work for the stage is in more intricate little plays — far darker, funnier, and more polyphonous dramas like 1996's *Disco Pigs* and 2007's *The Walworth Farce*, the latter seen in Berkeley in 2009 when Cal Performances hosted Druid Theater of Galway's superb production.

The New Electric Ballroom, currently up at Shotgun Players' Ashby Stage in a Bay Area premiere, is something of a companion piece to The Walworth Farce. Written around the same time, it too revolves around the twisted and twisting routine of a vicious familial regime. This time it's a fishy tale of three sisters in a kind of Chekhovian-Irish blend of suspended animation, crammed together in a tin-roofed shack (rendered in expansive detail by ever-impressive scenic designer Erik Flatmo) where together they replay the glorious promise and ignominious catastrophe of a night two of them experienced as teenagers and the other never experienced at all.

Claustrophobic and (presumably) foul-smelling, their little shack nevertheless transforms regularly into a paradisiacal nightclub as they relive its intoxicating crush of bodies, "and its tide of badly suppressed sex," from the vantage of partial and incomplete memories.

Ada (Beth Wilmurt), at 40 the youngest sister, seems to sublimate her own deeply repressed desires in spurring on a longstanding feud between her older 60-something sisters, the racier Breda (Anne Darragh) and the still innocent Clara (Trish Mulholland), each of whom had eyes and more for some big-handed young man in the parking lot of the titular local nightclub of their youth. Together, they're the ABCs of sex, though maybe in reverse order, enacting the daily ritual that is their torture and their solace, a purgatorial pause in the merciless flow of time.

Village loner and oddball Patsy (Kevin Clarke), meanwhile, forever proffering a tray of the day's catch to this hostile household of shut-ins, is literally fishing for compliments, the poor bastard. In his rubber boots and rough clothes he presents himself with decorous care and insistent charm, like a seriously underappreciated only child.

But that's in keeping with this little sadomasochistic community of private hells, in which characters take turns spilling out their lives to a mostly indifferent room. Indeed, you could almost think of the play as a series of monologues — beautifully written ones. Walsh has a gift for a subtly heightened vernacular. Unlike the self-conscious falsetto lyricism in so much new drama, it never cloys but rather sings out plainly in a gritty, open-throated pitch. These monologues are attention grabbers. But nearly as striking are the ominous, rueful, anticipatory silences they set

off, like dark and slow-roiling waters tugged by the moon.

Enda Walsh's 'New

Electric Ballroom' takes its Bay Area bow

Although the play has a streak of wild and easy humor running through it, director Barbara Damashek leans toward the more serious side of things in her interpretation, emphasizing the dark corners to the point that they tend to look not all that dark. It might look otherwise were the humor more foregrounded and intense. The play seems to demand a manic, barely contained intensity that registers only weakly here - even the sight of older women made up in garishly exaggerated makeup and parading around in teenage garb lacks some of the macabre, obscene humor and pathos you feel it wants to contain. And it makes the play feel thinner, a bit reedy. Her actors, while highly capable, only intermittently produce the kind of deeply etched tensions between them that you'd expect from these obsessive and long-festering relationships.

This is still a worthwhile show, though, with solid acting doing service to a lively litany of punishing doubts and irrepressible hopes — until the flotsam of lost time finally washes ashore, electrifying (briefly) an otherwise dull, ruthless, and necessary domesticity. SFBG

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Stream of movement

Liss Fain turns to Faulkner for 'The Imperfect is Our Paradise'

BY RITA FELCIANO

arts@sfbg.com

DANCE Liss Fain borrowed the title of her most recent installation — the wondrous The Imperfect is Our Paradise, Sept. 11-14 at ODC Theater — from Wallace Stevens. But the work's inspiration was William Faulkner's 1929 novel The Sound and the Fury, an often stream-of-consciousness study of the Compson family in Jefferson, Miss. She employed fragments of the text, not unlike previous works in which she explored the words of Jamaica Kincaid, Virginia Woolf, and Lydia Davis.

For Imperfect, Fain turned again to previous collabo-

rators Matthew Antaky (installation design), Frédéric Boulay (projection design), and Mary Domenico (costume design — great, ratty overalls), as well as composer Dan Wool, who has a lovely habit of including into his own scores a quote from classical music. They feel like nods to another world.

Fain now also has a fine, stable ensemble that beautifully realizes her strong, formally contained choreography. Returning dancers Jeremiah Crank, Katharine Hawthorne, sisters Megan and Shannon Kurashige, and Carson Stein were joined by Gregory DeSantis and Aidan DeYoung. They

lent a workmanlike, stoic sense of inevitability to their performances, whether staring into the void or ensnaring partners every which way. This was true ensemble work.

Imperfect communicates with its intelligence, clarity of purpose, and rich, tight choreography. Antaky added his magic by designing 12 panels that hung high above the audience on all four sides. They first suggested a sense of enclosure with brick walls, then threats from nature, stockade-like fences, and finally a dead house on a hill. The stage floor looked like dry dirt, or as if covered with leaves. It made me think of Benjy, the Compsons' disabled son, who loved the smell of trees.

About the use of Faulkner's text, I am of two minds. In voiceover, it was often more difficult to decipher than, for instance, actor Val Sinckler's live performance in the Kincaid-inspired work. If text is used, it should be comprehensible. That's why it's there. At the same time, those fragments I did catch — primarily those from Quentin, the book's most contemporary and most tragic character — pulled me away from Fain toward Faulkner's narrative, such as it is. I thought it distracting rather then illuminating.

Since Fain encourages audiences to walk around the perimeter of the stage, though few people do, she meticulously designed her choreography from the periphery,

into and out of the center space. In the beginning, the dancers stood immobile, staring into the void, before slowly coming to life and offering us different perspectives of themselves. I expected characters to emerge, but they didn't.

With the exception of Hawthorne, who throughout remained something of a wild card, this was a homogenous group that was caught in what was perhaps a common dilemma. The title's slippery Imperfect refers to something flawed, but grammatically, it also references past actions that are finished in some languages; in others, they project into the present. If Fain had overreaching themes in mind, they might have been time and memo-

ry, past and present.

The choreography asks for strength with lots of elaborate partnering — mostly male to female, yet without a trace of romantic intent. These dancers engage each other almost impersonally as something that is inevitable and that will be repeated for who knows how long. Despite the few unisons — some triple duets, a few one-onones — Imperfect has a churning sense of commonality about it. An arabesque can turn into a backward somersault and end between a partner's leg. The dancers engage each other by rearranging body parts — an elbow here,

a foot there — and flipping in every direction. They entangle their bodies, lift and drop them. Often they sink to the floor but pneumatically rise again.

'IMPERFECT

COMMUNICATES WITH

CLARITY OF PURPOSE,

ITS INTELLIGENCE,

AND RICH, TIGHT

PHOTO BY RJ MUNA

CHOREOGRAPHY.'

As she has in the past, Fain makes prominent use of the arms. People yank and pull at them like tug of wars. But they also lock elbows, as if going for a stroll, but then immediately slip out of this companionship into more robust moves, becoming burdens which can be dropped or gently let go.

When Wool introduces Bach, the tall and elegant Hawthorne and Crank look like they remember the ballroom decorum of an earlier era. If there is one "character" it is Hawthorne, an astoundingly versatile and detailed dancer. She can stand on the sidelines as if watching for a prey, with a single gesture break up a couple, and again and again tear across the space sweeping the floor clean with her tornado-like whipping turns, pleading arms reaching for the light.

With Hawthorne in control, you get the sense that *Imperfect* contemplates time — past and time as it is passing. It may all stem from Faulkner, and the watch that the Compson family patriarch gives to Quentin, his oldest son. sfbg

www.lissfaindance.org

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ARTS + CULTURE ON THE CHEAP



ROY DE FOREST'S *COUNTRY DOG GENTLEMEN* (1972) IS PART OF "FERTILE GROUND" AT THE OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA. COLLECTION SFMOMA, GIFT OF THE HAMILTON-WELLS COLLECTION. © ESTATE OF ROY DE FOREST / LICENSED BY VAGA. NEW YORK

Listings are compiled by Guardian staff. Submit items for the listings at listings@sfbg.com. For further information on how to submit items for the listings, see Selector.

WEDNESDAY 17

"Black Widow Pulsars: Vengeful Star Corpses"
Randall Museum Theater, 199 Museum Way, SF;
www.randallmuseum.org. 7:30pm, free. Stanford
University's Dr. Roger Romani speaks — Gamma
rays, black holes, neutron stars! — as part of the San
Francisco Amateur Astronomers' 2014 lecture series.
Novella Carpenter Booksmith, 1644 Haight, SF;
www.booksmith.com. 7:30pm, free. The author
(Farm City: The Education of an Urban Farmer)
reads from her latest memoir, Gone Feral:
Tracking My Dad Through the Wild. Carpenter also
talks Feral Sat/20, 5pm, Green Arcade, 1680
Market, SF; www.thegreenarcade.com.

THURSDAY 18

"Hardly Strictly Warren Hellman" Contemporary Jewish Museum, 736 Mission, SF; www.thecjm. org. Opens Thu/18, 11am-8pm, \$5-12. Exhibit runs through October 2016 (daily except Wed, 11am-5pm; Thu, 11am-8pm). Celebrating the legacy of banker, philanthropist, musician, and Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Festival founder Hellman, who died in 2011. Exhibit contains footage from HSB's archive of live performances, and personal objects like Hellman's banjo.

"The Magic City: Treasure Island's Golden Gate International Exposition" 2 Bryant, Suite 300, SF; www.sfheritage.org. 6pm, \$15. San Francisco Heritage hosts this lecture with authors Anne Schnoebelen and Therese Poletti, who will discuss the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition, themed "the Pageant of the Pacific," and for which Treasure Island was constructed.

Jason Segal JCCSF, 3200 California, SF; www.jccsf.org/arts. 7pm. \$15. The actor and comedian shares his new book for kids, Nightmares!

FRIDAY 19

"Art/Act: Maya Lin" David Brower Center, 2150 Allston, Berk; www.browercenter.org. Opens Fri/19, 7-9pm. Free. Exhibit runs through Feb 4 (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm; Sun, 10am-1pm). The acclaimed sculptor, architectural designer, and environmentalist displays abstract works inspired by the Bay Area's natural environments, including the interactive What is Missing? project.

Eat Real Festival Jack London Square, Oakl; www.eatrealfest.com. Fri/19, 1-9pm; Sat/20, 10:30am-9pm; Sun/21, 10:30am-5pm. Free. Billed as a combo "state fair, street-food festival, and block party," this fest offers sustainable, regionally-sourced eats (BBQ, ice cream, curry, and more) costing eight bucks or less.

Oktoberfest by the Bay Pier 48, SF; www.oktoberfestbythebay.com. Fri/19, 5pm-midnight; Sat/20, 11am-5pm and 6pm-midnight; Sun/21, 11am-6pm. \$25-75 (Sat/20-Sun/21 day session, kids 13-18, \$5; must be accompanied by parent). The Chico Bavarian Band returns to add oompah to your eating and, more importantly, drinking experience. Prost!

SATURDAY 20

"Among Dreams" LGBT Center, 1800 Market, SF; www.amongdreams.com. Opens Sat/20, 6-9pm. Free. Exhibit runs through Nov 11. Chelsea Rae Klein presents photographic portraits, collages, and other works honoring LGBTQI veterans and active-duty military members, based on archival materials as well as interviews conducted since the 2011 repeal of "Don't Ask. Don't Tell."

'Fertile Ground: Art and Community in California" Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak, Oakl; www.museumca.org. Opens Sat/20, 10am-6pm. \$6-15. Exhibit runs through April 12 (Wed-Thu, 11am-5pm: Fri. 11am-9pm; Sat-Sun, 10am-6pm). Oakland Museum of California and SFMOMA collaborate on this exhibition, which focuses on local history and social movements that shaped California art. Communities include the artists who worked with Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo in SF in the 1930s; painters and photographers from the California School of Fine Arts in the 1940s and '50s (Mark Rothko, Richard Diebenkorn); UC Davis students and faculty in the 1960s and '70s (Wayne Theibaud); and the "new Mission" artists of the 1990s (Barry McGee, Chris Johanson) Mill Valley Fall Arts Festival #58 Old Mill

Park, 325 Throckmorton, Mill Valley; www. mvfaf.org. 10am-5pm, \$5-10. Through Sun/21. Over 140 fine artists participate in this fair, which is held in a can't-be-beat location (hi, majestic redwoods) and also features live music and children's entertainment.

Sarah Waters Booksmith, 1644 Haight, SF; www.booksmith.com. 7:30 pm, free. The award-winning novelist (*Tipping the Velvet*, *Affinity*) reads from her latest, *The Paying Guests*.

SUNDAY 21

Folsom Street Fair Folsom between Eighth and 13th Sts, SF; www.folsomstreetfair.com. 11am-6pm, \$10 donation requested (donation sticker entitles wearer to \$2 off drinks). The leather and fetish fantasia returns with over 200 exhibitor booths, two giant dance floors, public play stations, erotic art, and more.

MONDAY 22

Patrick Hoffman Booksmith, 1644 Haight, SF; www.booksmith.com. 7:30pm, free. The author of *The White Van* discusses his work with Matt Gonzalez as part of the "New Voices, New Stories" series.

TUESDAY 23

"Primus, Over the Electric Grapevine: Insight into Primus and the World of Les Claypool" Doc's Lab, 124 Columbus, SF; www.citylights. com. 7pm, free (tickets required, must be picked up at the front counter of City Lights at 261 Columbus; call 415-362-8193 to inquire about availability). Primus' Les Claypool, Larry LaLonde, and others discuss Greg Prato's new book, offering the definitive oral history of the

AC STAGE LISTINGS

Stage listings are compiled by Guardian staff. Performance times may change; call venues to confirm. Reviewers are Robert Avila, Rita Felciano, and Nicole Gluckstern. Submit items for the listings at listings@sfbg.com.

THEATER

OPENING

Ideation San Francisco Playhouse, 450 Post, SF; www.sfplayhouse.org. \$20-120. Previews Sept 23-26, 8pm. Opens Sept 27, 8pm. Runs Tue-Thu, 7pm; Fri-Sat, 8pm (also Sat, 3pm; no matinee Sept 27); Sun, 2pm. SF Playhouse performs the world premiere of Aaron Loeb's darkly comic suspense thriller. The Late Wedding Thick House, 1695 18th St, SF; www.crowdedfire.org. \$15-35. Previews Thu/18-Sat/20, 8pm, Opens Mon/22, 8pm, Runs Wed-Sat, 8pm (no show Sept 24). Through Oct 11. Crowded Fire Theater performs a world premiere commission by Christopher Chen, a "journey of the soul" inspired by the work of Italian fabulist novelist Italo Calvino. Pippin Golden Gate Theatre, 1 Taylor, SF; www. shnsf.com. \$45-210. Opens Tue/23, 8pm. Runs Tue-Sat, 8pm (also Wed and Sat, 2pm); Sun, 2pm. Through Oct 19 This new production of Roger O Hirson and Stephen Schartz's 1972 musical won the 2013 Tony for Best Revival of a Musical.

BAY AREA

Lovebirds Marsh Berkeley, 2120 Allston, Berk; www.themarsh.org. \$20-100. Opens Fri/19, 8pm. Runs Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8:30pm. Through Oct 18. Marga Gomez brings her solo show to Berkeley after runs in SF and NYC.

ONGOING

The Barbary Coast Revue Sub/Mission Gallery, 2183 Mission, SF; www.barbarycoastrevue.com. \$28. Sat, 8pm. Through Nov 29. Join Mark Twain on an interactive musical tour of Gold Rush-era San Francisco.

Cock New Conservatory Theatre Center, 25 Van Ness, SF; www.nctcsf.org. \$25-45. Wed-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 2pm. Through Oct 12. New Conservatory Theatre Center performs Michael Bartlett's comedy about a man who meets the woman of his dreams—while on a break from dating his boyfriend.

Each and Every Thing Marsh San Francisco Main Stage, 1062 Valencia, SF; www.themarsh.org. \$20-

50. Thu-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 5pm; Sun, 2pm. Extended through Oct 4. The latest solo show from celebrated writer-performer Dan Hoyle (Tings Dey Happen, The Real Americans) winds a more random course than usual across the country and abroad but then that's the idea — or at least Hoyle warns us, right after an opening encounter with a touchy young white supremacist, that the trip he's taking us on is a subtle one. Displaying again his exceptional gifts as a writer and protean performer. Hoyle deftly embodies a set of real-life encounters as a means of exploring the primacy and predicament of face-to-face communication in the age of Facebook. With the help of director Charlie Varon (who co-developed the piece with Hoyle and Maureen Towey), this comes across in an entertaining and swift-flowing 75-minute act that includes a witty rap about "phone zombies" and a Dylan-esque screed at a digital detox center. But the purported subject of connection, or lack there of, in our gadget-bound and atomized society is neither very original nor very deeply explored — nor is it necessarily very provocative in a theater, before an audience already primed for the live encounter. Far more interesting and central here is Hoyle's relationship with his old college buddy Pratim an Indian American in post-9/11 America whose words are filled with laid-back wisdom and wry humor. Also intriguing is the passing glimpse of early family life in the Hoyle household with Dan's celebrated artist father, and working-class socialist, Geoff Hoyle, These relationships, rather than the sketches of strangers (albeit very graceful ones), seem the worthier subjects to mine for truth and meaning. Indeed, there's a line spoken by Pratim that could sum up the essence of Hoyle's particular art: "It's so much better," he says, "when you find yourself in other people than when you just find yourself." Hoyle's real frontier could end up being much more personal terrain, much closer to home. (Avila)

Foodies: The Musical Shelton Theater, 533 Sutter, SF; www.foodiesthemusical.com. \$32-34. Fri-Sat, 8pm. Open-ended. AWAT Productions presents Morris Bobrow's musical comedy revue all about food. The Haze ACT Costume Shop, 1117 Market, SF; http://bit.ly/thehazeplayACT. \$20. Thu, 7pm; Fri-Sat, 8pm. Through Sept 27. Heather Marlowe performs her solo show, a sharp-witted, autobiographical play about recovering from rape — and the way rape cases are mishandled by the justice system.

King Fool Various locations TBA to reservation hold CONTINUES ON PAGE 32 >>



OPINION NEWS FOOD + DRINK THE SELECTOR MUSIC ARTS + CULTURE FILM CLASSIFIEDS SEPTEMBER 17 - 23, 2014 / SFBG.COM 31

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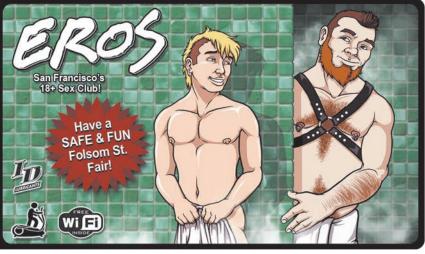
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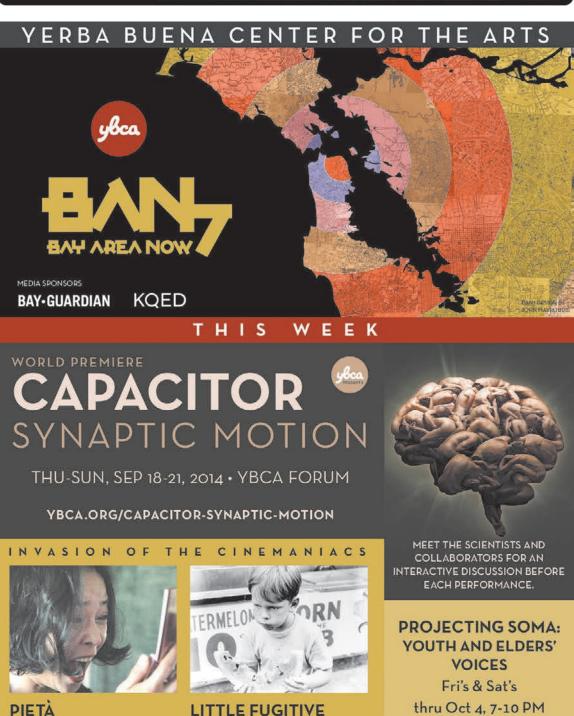
THU. SEP 18, 7:30 PM

Y B C A . O R G / B A N 7

SCREENING ROOM







LITTLE FUGITIVE

SUN. SEP 21, 2 PM

SCREENING ROOM





SF PLAYHOUSE'S IDEATION

PHOTO BY LAUREN ENGLISH

CONT>>

ers; www.weplayers.org. \$30-50. Fri-Sun, times TBA. Through Sept 28. We Players presents a new, intimate, site-specific work inspired by King Lear.
LongShotz: The Things That Separate Us Tides Theatre, 533 Sutter, Second Fir, SF; http://amios. wordpress.com. \$25. Program B: Wed/17, 8pm. Amios presents two separate programs of three 30-minute plays, each written by a different author. Each play is inspired by the Radiohead lyric, "Just 'cause you feel it doesn't mean it's there.'

Motown the Musical Orpheum Theatre, 1192 Market, SF; www.shnsf.com. \$45-210. Tue-Sat, 8pm (also Wed and Sat, 2pm); Sun, 2pm. Through Sept 28. Over 40 hits ("My Girl," "Ain't No Mountain High Enough") pack this tale of Motown founder Berry Gordy's career in the music biz.

Noises Off! Shelton Theater, 533 Sutter, SF; www.

sheltontheater.org. \$38. Thu-Sat, 8pm. Through Oct 25. Shelton Theater performs Michael Frayn's outrageous backstage comedy.

Old Hats ACT's Geary Theater, 415 Geary, SF; www.act-sf.org. \$20-120. Opens Wed/17, 8pm. Runs Wed-Sat, 8pm and Sept 30 (also Sat, 2pm); Sun, 2pm; Tue/23, 7pm. Extended through Oct 12. American Conservatory Theater presents Tony winners Bill Irwin and David Shiner in the West Coast premiere of Signature Theatre's story of "clowns

getting older — and even crazier."

San Francisco Fringe Festival Exit Theatreplex, 156 Eddy, SF; www.sffringe.org. \$10 or less at the door; \$12.99 or less online (passes, \$45-75). Through Sat/20. Unique, daring indie theater (murder mysteries! Tech tales! Dating dramas! Clowns!), with 35 shows and 150 performances over 14 days. Semi-Famous: Hollywood Hell Tales from the Middle New venue: Marsh San Francisco, 1062 Valencia, SF; www.themarsh.org. \$20-100. Sat, 8:30pm; Sun, 7pm. Through Oct 19. Don Reed's latest solo show shares tales from his career in entertainment. Slaughterhouse Five Gough Street Playhouse, 1620 Gough, SF; www.custommade.org. \$20-50. Thu-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 7pm (also Oct 5 and 12, 3pm).

forms Eric Simonson's adaptation of the classic Kurt Vonnegut's semi-autobiographical novel. The Taming of the Shrew McLaren Park, Jerry Garcia Amphitheater, 40 John F Shelley, SF; www. sfshakes.org. Free. Sat/20-Sun/21, 2pm. Continues through Free Shakespeare in the Park presents this take on the Bard's barb-filled romance.

Through Oct 12. Custom Made Theatre Co. per-

Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind Boxcar Theatre, 505 Natoma, SF; www.sfneofuturists.com. \$11-16. Fri-Sat, 9pm. Ongoing. The Neo-Futurists perform Greg Allen's spontaneous, ever-changing show that crams 30 plays into 60 minutes.

BAY AREA

An Audience with Meow Meow Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Roda Theatre, 2015 Addison, Berk; www. berkeleyrep.org. \$29-89. Tue and Thu-Sat, 8pm (also Sat, 2pm but no matinee Sat/20; also Fri/19 and Oct 16, 2pm); Wed and Sun, 7pm (also Sun, 2pm). Through Oct 19. British singer-comedian Meow Meow world-premieres her new show at Berkeley Rep, under the direction of Kneehigh's Emma Rice.

"Breaking Chains Festival" Various venues, Oakl (one venue in SF); www.ubuntutheaterproject.com. \$15-25. Through Sept 27. New company Ubuntu Theater Project presents this festival of six site-specific works. Authors include Marcus Gardley, Tim Price, Clifford Odets, George Brant, Bennet Fisher, and N'Jameh Camera

A Midsummer Night's Dream Bruns

Amphitheater, 100 California Shakespreare Theater Wy, Orinda; www.calshakes.org. \$45-82. Tue-Thu, 7:30pm; Fri-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 4pm. Through Sept 28. Cal Shakes performs Shana Cooper's remix of the Bard's classic fantasy. **Rapture, Blister, Burn** Aurora Theatre, 2081

Addison, Berk; www.auroratheatre.org. \$32-50. Tue and Sun, 7pm (also Sun, 2pm); Wed-Sat, 8pm. Through Sept 28. Aurora Theatre Company opens its 23rd season with Gina Gionfriddo's drama about three generations of women "struggling with feminism's foibles." sfbg

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FILM









YESTERDAY AND TODAY: MANCE LIPSCOMB AND CHRIS STRACHWITZ; THE PINE LEAF BOYS

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ARGOT PICTURES





BY NICOLE GLUCKSTERN

arts@sfbg.com

FILM In an early scene from Maureen Gosling and Chris Simon's documentary on the life and musical obsessions of their mutual friend Chris Strachwitz of Arhoolie Records, we see Strachwitz behind the wheel of his car, struggling to explain the common thread that joins his wide-ranging musical tastes, from country blues to Cajun Zydeco to bordertown conjunto.

"It's just got some guts to it. It ain't wimpy, that's for sure. It ain't no mouse music."

Mouse music? In a later scene, some of his friends attempt to define the term.

"It's music that's cheap and not real."

"Music that is popular."
"Inauthentic."

"Anything that Chris Strachwitz doesn't like."

Taking their documentary title (*This Ain't No Mouse Music!*) from their subject, Gosling and Simon make their own attempt to define the term, following Strachwitz from the crowded warren of his brick-and-mortar, El Cerrito shop, Down Home Music, to the sultry backyards of the Louisiana bayou, where making music is just "a pure joy" — and recording it is Strachwitz's fondest obsession.

This Ain't No Mouse Music! is a fascinating road trip through the dusty back roads and anonymous beer joints of "the music of your neighbors." It follows its subject from his early associations with iconic blues men Lightnin' Hopkins and Mance Lipscomb; his subsequent work with Mississippi Fred McDowell and the powerful Big Mama Thornton; his serendipitous acquisition of the publishing rights to Country Joe McDonald's "I-Feel-Like-I'm-Fixin'-To-Die Rag";

Joyous blues

New doc spotlights the musical wanderings of Arhoolie Records founder Chris Strachwitz

his decades-long record-collecting habit (his renowned Frontera collection alone tops over 40,000 albums); his love of New Orleans jazz and Louisiana Zydeco; and his explorations of Tex-Mex conjunto and Appalachian country.

The filmmakers don't skimp on the soundtrack. There are close to 70 songs used in the 91-minute doc, including historically important recordings — such as Lightnin' Hopkins' version of Mance Lipscomb's "Tom Moore's Farm," which led Strachwitz and music historian Mack McCormick (who deserves a documentary of his own) to Lipscomb's front door in Navasota, Texas, a key discovery for all parties concerned. Taking a page from Strachwitz's own playbook, the directors are also on hand to record a wealth of vernacular music being played on the spot: the Treme Brass Band on a New Orleans street corner; members of the musical Savoy family playing a backyard barbecue in southwest Louisiana; a front-porch accordion performance in Texas with Santiago Jimenez Jr.; and a raucous Zydeco sing-along in Strachwitz's kitchen with youthful standard-bearers the Pine Leaf Boys. Throughout, Strachwitz appears most often in his preferred habitat, fiddling with mics and levels and capturing, for posterity, the living breathing music he deliberately surrounds himself with.

Dedicated to the late Les Blank, with whom Gosling, Simon, and Strachwitz all collaborated with over the years (Gosling and Simon as assistant filmmakers; Strachwitz as co-director and producer of several music films, including the 1976 classic, *Chulas Fronteras*), *This Ain't No Mouse Music!* makes good use of footage from several of his films. These include 1970's *The Blues Accordin' to Lightnin' Hopkins*, and the 1973 Clifton Chenier biography *Hot Pepper*. Strachwitz even echoes a popular Blank sentiment in a moment when he explains his recording process: "My stuff isn't produced, I just catch it like it is."

Gosling and Simon, who became filmmakers directly through Blank — Gosling was his assistant for 20 years, starting in the early '70s, while Simon was married to him for 20 years and began working with him in a variety of capacities, because "otherwise I'd never see the guy" — credit him for teaching them the importance of approaching a subject with curiosity. They were also inspired by the principle of going in "not knowing anything," and allowing the story to emerge in its own time, creating a gentle meander through certain key moments rather than a tightly-controlled, connect-the-dots narrative.

Keeping the focus on the music and musicians Strachwitz adores rather than the man himself may be the greatest homage Gosling and Simon can offer their subject. However, this choice leaves a sometimes distracting gap at its center, not quite filled by flashes of Strachwitz's interior world that do find screen time: a moment of pained disgust at being asked for five dollars for a lemonade made with "just one lemon;" a shamefaced recollection of not taking a stand on behalf of Lipscomb in a segregated Southern café.

Approximately 30 seconds of the film are dedicated to the fact that he never married, another 60 to his family's flight from Silesia, East Germany (now Poland) in 1945. But never far from the foreground are the many moments that cement Strachwitz's role as a conduit through which so many overlooked, homegrown genres and musicians have been passed through to the American public, from the days when he drove his inventory around in the trunk of his car, to the present, when he can call business manager Tom Diamant with news of his latest discovery.

"Whether we make money on it or not, we put the records out," Diamant observes somewhat wryly, a testament not just to the current challenges facing the music industry as a whole, but to Strachwitz's still-boundless enthusiasm for his profession that supercedes the kind of business "sense" that focuses narrowly on dollars and cents.

Despite his admitted initial reluctance to be the subject of a documentary rather than the producer, sound engineer, or "songand-dance man" glad-handing the performers before their sets, Strachwitz emerges as a character in his own right — a "classic record man" who entered the music business with the purest of intentions, to make the records he wanted to hear. And 54 years on, we see him doing just exactly that: no compromises, no bullshit, and, most especially, no mouse music. SFBG

THIS AIN'T NO MOUSE MUSIC! opens Fri/19 in Bay Area theaters.



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W/ AGAINST THE GRAIN,
JOKES FOR FEELINGS

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 8
RINGO DEATHSTARR
W/ AIRS, MOONBEAMS,
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THE HEROINE
W/ WHITE BARONS,
SWEETWATER BLACK

FRIDAY OCTOBER 10
ONLY CRIME
W/ UNITED DEFIANCE,
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SUNDAY OCTOBER 12
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OPINION NEWS FOOD + DRINK THE SELECTOR MUSIC ARTS + CULTURE FILM CLASSIFIEDS SEPTEMBER 17 - 23, 2014 / SFBG.COM 33

Waltz work

Tarantino's muse can't save Terry Gilliam's 'The Zero Theorem'



BY CHERYL EDDY

FILM The New York Times called Col. Hans Landa — the sinister yet gleefully polite Nazi played by Christoph Waltz in Quentin Tarantino's 2009 Inglourious Basterds — "the ultimate Tarantino creation." In the same article, Tarantino admitted that if he hadn't found the perfect person to play Landa, he wouldn't have made the film at all. (Can you blame him?) The supremely likable Waltz's elevation from German TV regular to movie star was cemented when he won Best Supporting Actor for the role. Three years later, he picked up a matching statuette for Tarantino's Django Unchained.

Waltz's ability to play loquacious characters - some evil, some crusading for justice on horseback — is undeniable. But how has this actor, having been handpicked to portray characters tailored to his strengths, fared beyond Tarantino? It's been a mixed bag. In 2011, he did bad guys three ways, in three forgettable films (The Green Hornet, Water for Elephants, and The Three Musketeers). His best that year was Roman Polanski's Carnage, as a tightly-wound father who'd rather check his BlackBerry than worry about his son.

His next test comes with Terry Gilliam's The Zero Theorem. The script was penned over a decade ago by Pat Rushin, a Florida creative writing professor. Its dystopian themes mirror Gilliam's Brazil (1985) and 12 Monkeys (1995); an overt dig at The Matrix (1999) reflects the era in which it was written, although it's presumably been updated to include more current-day themes, like technology's ability to foster faux relationships and extreme loneliness.

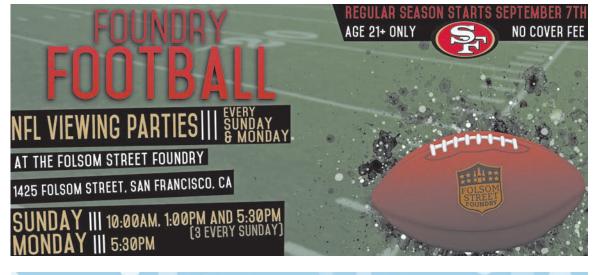
Waltz, as gleamingly bald as his Oscars, plays computer whiz Qohen, one of "the most productive number crunchers" at mega-corp Mancom. Qohen is a stress case who dreams about black holes and refers to himself using plural pronouns, as in "We are dying." (The affec-

tation is as annoying to Theorem's other characters as it is to the viewer.) His immediate supervisor (a bewigged David Thewlis) refers him to the enigmatic "Management" (a bewigged Matt Damon), who allows Qohen to work from his home an old church quirked up to the extreme, because, as the film's press notes hilariously understate, "a very high standard of production design is expected from every Terry Gilliam film." (The film's slender budget means that most of the film takes place in this location.)

This privilege comes with a price, and Qohen is tasked with a "special project:" solving the titular theorem, a maddening beast that would drive even a stable person insane. His madness is in no way assuaged by "Dr. Shrink Rom," his virtual psychiatrist (a bewigged Tilda Swinton), though he does get some help from Management's genius teenage son (Lucas Hedges), who shows up at Qohen's man cave of despair to eat pizza and share his own thoughts on the "Zip-Tee." There's also a romance — with Mélanie Thierry, resplendent in virtual-reality beachwear — though it proves no more "real" than anything else in Qohen's world. Ultimately, despite Waltz's heavy lifting (and not-infrequent nudity), Theorem sputters to sustain all its many whirring parts, including those that attempt to convey deep thoughts about the meaning of life. Maybe the meaning is "don't overthink it."

As for Waltz, his future slate contains a few worrisome choices (the fifth Pirates of the Caribbean movie? Nein!), but also some intriguing ones. This Christmas brings Tim Burton's Big Eyes, scripted by the duo who penned Burton's 1994 Ed Wood, in which Waltz and Amy Adams play kitsch-art impresarios Walter and Margaret Keane. To paraphrase Waltz's Django Unchained character, how could you resist? sfbg

THE ZERO THEOREM opens Fri/19 in Bay Area theaters.





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PHOTO BY ATSUSHO NISHIJIM

Film listings are edited by Cheryl Eddy. Reviewers are Kimberly Chun, Dennis Harvey, Lynn Rapoport, and Sara Maria Vizcarrondo. For rep house show-times. See Rep Clock.

OPENING

The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby Writerdirector Ned Benson's The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby began as separate films about a failed marriage, told from the points of view of the husband (James McAvoy), and then the wife (Jessica Chastain). Because Americans will happily binge-watch entire TV seasons but still get the shakes when confronted with a two-part film, the segments (titled Him and Her) are getting wide release in the edited-together Them. (Diehards will have a chance to seek out the complete work eventually, but for now, this review concerns only Them.) As the film begins, Chastain's Eleanor (yep, named after the Beatles song) flings herself off an NYC bridge. She survives physically, but her mental state is still supremely fragile, so she checks out of her Manhattan life and her marriage to Connor (McAvoy), and digs in at the chic suburban saltbox occupied by her parents (Isabelle Huppert and William Hurt) and sister (Jess Weixler), a single mother with a young son. Meanwhile, Connor mopes around his failing restaurant with his chef BFF (the suddenly ubiquitous Bill Hader), and pays occasion al visits to his own moping father (Ciarán Hinds). The estranged couple circles each other, in flashbacks and occasional run-ins, and the audience is slowly made privy to the tragedy that drove them apart and has them both reeling from grief months later. Even in mash-up form, this is a delicate film, enhanced by Benson's confidence in his audience's intelligence; what could have been a manipulative tear-ierker instead feels authentically raw, with characters whose emotional confusion leads them to behave in realistically frustrating ways. The casting is note-perfect, with a special nod to Viola Davis as Eleanor's world-weary college professor, I'll be seeking out Her just to catch more of that performance. (2:03) (Eddy)

The Iceman A palace guard accused of murder (martial arts star Donnie Yen) and three vengeful brothers are all frozen mid-battle — only to defrost 400 years later and pick up where they left off. (1:46) Four Star.

Los Angeles Plays Itself Remastered and newly cleared for fair use, Thom Andersen's incisive 2003 film essay on narrative cinema's many representations and misrepresentations of Los Angeles plays a single night at the Castro. Andersen's impressively choreographed montage zigzags through a vast litany of film history, submitting erotic thrillers, middlebrow Oscar bait, and avant-garde outliers to the same materialist protocol. Observing Hollywood's tendency to falsify geography and transform landmarks of modernist geography into villainous hideouts, Andersen's treatment of mainstream ideology is acidly funny but never condescending. To the contrary: Los Angeles Plays Itself is driven by an unshakeable faith that another kind of film and with it another kind of world — is possible. In methodically deconstructing countless car chases and phony denouements, the native Angeleno lays groundwork for the fresh appreciation of the diverse neorealisms found in the work of directors like Kent Mackenzie (1961's The Exiles), Nicholas Ray (1955's Rebel Without a Cause), Fred Halsted (1972's *LA Plays Itself*), Charles Burnett (1979's Killer of Sheep), and Billy Woodberry (1984's Bless Their Little Hearts). A true work of termite art and an impassioned argument for "a city of walkers, a cinema of walking," Los Angeles Plays Itself is the closest thing to a cineaste's Death and Life of Great American Cities, (2:49) Castro. (Max Goldberg)

The Maze Runner In a post-apocalyptic world, a youth (Dylan O'Brien) finds himself among a group of boys trapped at the center of a mysterious maze. Based on the YA novel by James Dashner. (1:53) *Presidio.*

This Ain't No Mouse Music! See "Joyous Blues." (1:32) Elmwood, Roxie, Smith Rafael.
This Is Where I Leave You Dramedy about a dysfunctional family (1ina Fey, Adam Driver, Jason Bataman, Jane Fonds) that rejuctantly requires for

dystunctional ramily (Tina Fey, Adam Driver, Jason Bateman, Jane Fonda) that reluctantly reunites for a funeral. Jonathan Tropper adapted the script from his best-seller. (1:43) *Marina*.

Tusk Michael Parks has a gift for looking like he's in a different movie than everyone else, and it's possible that ineffable skill of his has found its best use to date in Kevin Smith's new fuck-you horror/comedy Tusk. When jerky podcaster Wally (Justin Long) finds a video that begins like "Star Wars Boy" but ends with dismemberment, Wally flies to Canada to interview the "Kill Bill Boy" (so named for the sword wielding and sourting stump). Wallace reaches

Canada and is importuned by the funeral. This is one

of a handful of scenes that exists to make us happy when Wally meets magical storyteller Howard Howe an ex-sailor full of sea tales and an dark plan to turn Wally into a Franken-walrus. The story is based on something Smith hashed out in his sModcasts (excerpted during the credits) and when you look for author surrogate (not that you should) Wally's impossible to distinguish from Smith. Asshole podcaster? Fights for permission to work freely? Body issues? All Wally needs is a dachshund and a jersey. Tusk isn't up to the level of Smith's early output, but it's right in line with the decline in quality he's been facing since critics broke his spirit, studios turned cold shoulders, and cynicism naturally set in. I hope whatever soul coughing Tusk represents will provide Smith momentum and license to leave any transformative hardships behind him — there are always beacons of hope (an uncredited Johnny Depp provides a good one here). Despite fundamental frustrations, *Tusk* has some deep and inky moments. When Howe takes Wally's leg from him (leveling him to a "Kill Bill Kid"-styled punch line) Wally wails impotently, and Howe laughs — at what it's not certain (perhaps it's really Parks, guffawing at Long's performance?), but whatever that gloriously complicated motivation was, in the mingling of cries emerges an eerie but profoundly communal quall. (1:42) (Vizcarrondo)

A Walk Among the Tombstones Liam Neeson continues his one-man-army career path, this time playing an ex-cop who (inevitably) is quick on the draw and gives no fucks. (1:53)

Wetlands It begins, like many a classic coming-ofage tale, with an unbridled case of hemorrhoids, followed by a barefoot meander through possible sewage to the vilest public restroom captured on film since 1996's *Trainspotting*. None of this seems to faze Wetlands' outspoken heroine and narrator, 18-year-old Helen (Carla Juri), a skateboarding, sexually adventurous young maniac who admits to hav-

ing a markedly lax attitude toward personal hygiene Viewers of director-cowriter David Wnendt's film, however, may want to refrain from visiting the concession stand just this once - chewing on Milk Duds is likely to become negatively evocative as Helen embarks on a round of tactile explorations involving a tasting menu of bodily excretions. The biotic high jinks continue when she winds up in the hospital in the wake of a viscerally enacted shaving incident, from which vantage point, occasionally under general anesthesia, she revisits scenes from both her fraught childhood and her teenage exploits, wandering between the homes of her divorced parents: an anxious, uptight germophobe mother (Meret Becker) and a checked-out, self-indulgent father (Axel Milberg), whose inadvisable rapprochement she hopes to engineer from her hospital bed. Impressively, amid the advancing waves of grossout, a poignant story line emerges, and, like Helen's handsome, bemused nurse Robin (Christoph Letkowski), the object of her wildly inappropriate advances, we find ourselves rolling with the shock and revulsion, increasingly solicitous and bizarrely charmed. (1:49) *Embarcadero*. (Rapoport) The Zero Theorum See "Waltz Work." (1:46) Flmwood Four Star

ONGOING

The Drop The late James Gandolfini gets a fitting final feature-film sendoff in this edgy microcosm of a crime movie, set among the small-time hoodies of Brooklyn, but just easily recast in Tony Soprano's Jersey or the Beantown of 2010's *The Fighter*. As Cousin Marv, a onetime dive-bar owner forced to turn his watering hole over to Chechen mobsters as a drop spot for bookmaking loot, he also gets worthy sparring partners in Tom Hardy and Matthias Schoenaerts (star of 2011's *Bullhead*, director Michaël R. Roskam's Oscar-nominated breakout).

fidence, until he finds a battered pit bull puppy in a trashcan belonging to Nadia (Noomi Rapace) - and discovers himself in the middle of a brazen robbery at the drop bar. With the puppy and Nadia comes the canine's purported owner, rumored killer, and neighborhood "nut case" Eric (Schoenaerts). The beauty of Dennis Lehane's screenplay, spinning off his short story "Animal Rescue," is embedded in how the most banal niceties (like "Good to see you") are used with Mamet-like skill to signal the threadbare facade of civilized behavior and convey an almost nihilistic sense of imminent threat. Meanwhile, Roskam walks a tightrope between the drab, wintry everyday and a pervasive mood of menace, creating a downbeat yet almost horrifying effect when the trigger is finally pulled — and the veil between the hidden and the real, the animal and the human, is dropped. (1:45) *Metreon, 1000 Van Ness, Presidio, Sundance Kabuki.* (Chun) God Help the Girl Perhaps it's not subtle that the first words we hear in the indie pop musical *God Help the Girl* — the writing and directing debut of Stuart Murdoch, Belle and Sebastian's lead singersongwriter — come out of the mouth of a D.J. evoking Nick Drake, no less, in a riff about the mystique of dead musicians. The influences and aesthetic of Murdoch and the beloved Scottish chamber pop group float through the film, a sort of moody live-action manifestation of 15-plus years' worth of Belle and Sebastian albums. We hear the DJ through the headphones of our nervy, melancholy heroine, Eve (Emily Browning, of 2011's *Sleeping Beauty*),

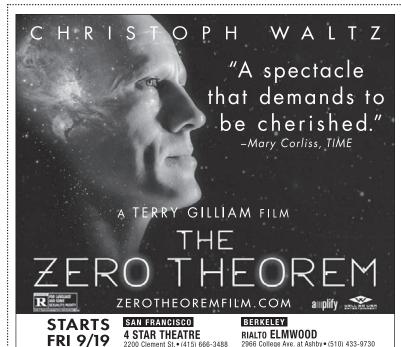
Hardy's Bob looks to be the perpetual side guy to

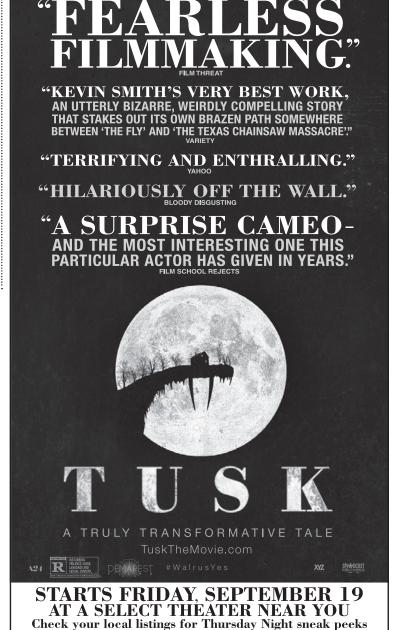
his Cousin Marv; he seems sludgy and lacking con

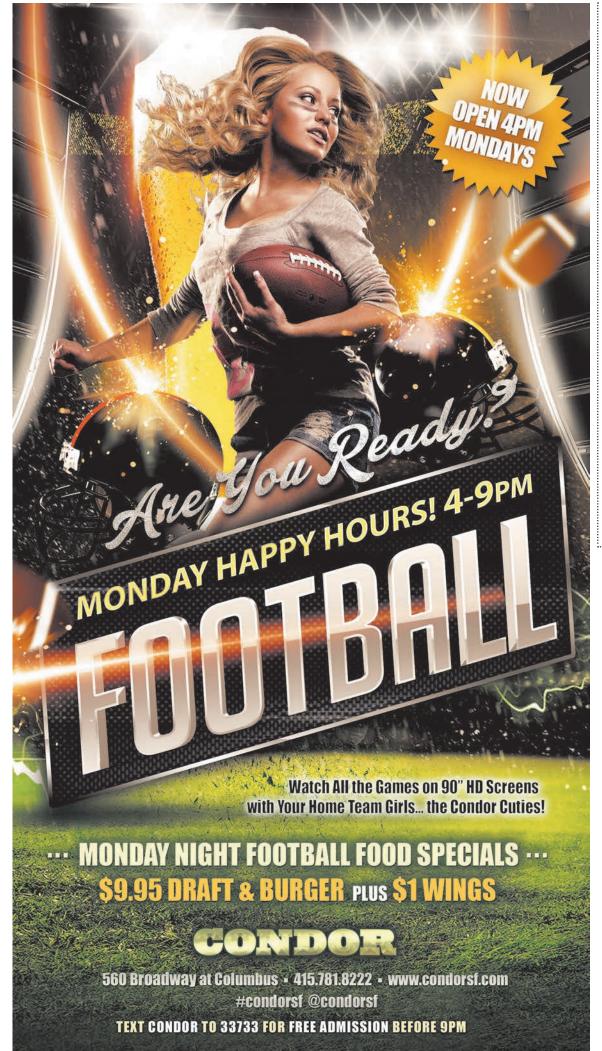
a young Australian living in Glasgow, whom we first meet narrating in song her night flight from a psychiatric institution, where she's under care for anorexia. Music keeps her moving, to a rock club, for starters, where she watches a band awkwardly implode and befriends the guitarist, James (Olly Alexander), who introduces her to aspiring musician Cassie (Hannah Murray), who reckons they should start a band. Easily half of the movie, and the better half, is told in song — largely by Eve, a talented songwriter with a sweetly captivating voice. The songs, written by Murdoch over the last decade, feel lush and fully realized, and pull us along through the story in infectiously giddy and affecting interludes, but tend to drop us off in vague, meandering terrain, among agreeable but sketchy acquaintances, when they end. (1:51) *Roxie*. (Rapoport)

The Skeleton Twins "I don't know ... maybe we were doomed from the beginning," muses Maggie (Kristin Wiig) at the beginning of The Skeleton Twins. It's her voice-over, but the figure onscreen is her brother, Milo (Bill Hader), who mopes to Blondie before flopping into a bathtub that slowly fills with water and blood from his slashed wrists. The twins haven't seen each other in over 10 years, and the ice takes awhile to break when Maggic appears at his hospital bedside. But we know her secret: On the same day Milo was penning a suicide note, Maggie — trapped in a torturously bland marriage — was on the verge of gobbling a handful of pills in order to make her own permanent exit. Clearly, these siblings have more in common than they realize: They're both deeply miserable, unable to shake a

CONTINUES ON PAGE 36 >>







FILM LISTINGS

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troubled past that includes their beloved father's suicide, a distant mother (Joanna Gleason), and the scandalous incident (involving Milo and his highschool English teacher) that caused their estrangement. There's only one path that these sad-sacks can choose (since if one of 'em actually died, that would make this black comedy a little too black), so they set about trying to mend fences. And it's obvious - despite their frequent arguments, and the fact that both do some pretty terrible things — that the only bond in The Skeleton Twins that has any chance at repair is Milo and Maggie's. Produced by indie darlings Jay and Mark Duplass, and directed by Craig Johnson (whose co-writer, Mark Heyman, also co-wrote 2010's *Black Swan*), *The Skeleton* Twins might veer too deeply into melodrama territory were it not for its restrained script, and its deeply appealing cast. Wiig and Hader have been funnier elsewhere — but they've rarely been better. (1:33) SF Centre, Sundance Kabuki, (Eddy) sfbg

REP CLOCK

Schedules are for Wed/17-Tue/23 except where noted. Director and year are given when available. Double features marked with a . All times pm unless otherwise specified.

ARTISTS' TELEVISION ACCESS 992 Valencia SF; www.atasite.org. \$6-10. "ATA Lives!": •;0 No Coronado! (Baldwin, 1992) and Wild Gunmen (Baldwin, 1978), Fri, 7; **Sonic Outlaws** (Baldwin, 1995), Fri, 9. "Other Cinema:" "Anomalies From the Archive:" Technicolor N.G., performance and talk by artists and archivists Walter Forsberg and John Klacsmann, Sat, 8:30.

BALBOA 3630 Balboa, SF; cinemasf.com/balboa. \$7.50-10. "Thursday Night Rock Docs:" Holding on to Jah (Hall, 2011), Thu, 7:30.

CASTRO 429 Castro, SF; (415) 621-6120, www castrotheatre.com. \$8.50-11. • Repo Man (Cox, 1984), Wed, 7:30, and The Return of the Living Dead (O'Bannon, 1985), Wed, 9:15. • Experiment in Terror (Edwards, 1962), Thu, 7, and Petulia (Lester, 1968), Thu, 9:25. "Midnites for Maniacs:" "Diegetic

Odysseys Double Feature:" •Inside Llewyn Davis (Coen and Coen, 2013), Fri. 7:20, and Coal Miner's Daughter (Apted, 1980), Fri, 9:30. "SF Silent Film Festival: Silent Autumn:" "Another Fine Mess: Silent Laurel and Hardy Shorts (1928-29)," Sat, 11am; The Son of the Sheik (Fitzmaurice, 1926), with a new score by the Alloy Orchestra, Sat, 1; "A Night at the Cinema in 1914," short films with a World War I focus and with music by Donald Sosin, Sat, 3:30; **The General** (Keaton, 1926), with Alloy Orchestra, Sat, 7; The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari (Wiene, 1920), Sat, 9. For tickets and more info, visit www.silentfilm.org.

Frozen (Buck and Lee, 2013), Sun, 1, presented singalong style. This event, \$11-16. •Los Angeles Plays Itself (Andersen, 2003), Sun, 6, and Model Shop (Demy, 1968), Sun, 9:05. "A Celebration of Arturo Galster (1959-2014)," Mon, 7:30. Free event. •The World According to Garp (Roy Hill, 1982), Tue, 7, and The Birdcage (Nichols, 1996), Tue, 4:45, 9:30.

CENTURY THEATERS @ PACIFIC COMMONS

43917 Pacific Commons, Fremont; www.theworldindiefilmfest.com, \$15, "The World's Independent Film Festival." films raising awareness about global cultural, and social issues, Sat-Sun.

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COURTHOUSE SQUARE 2200 Broadway, Redwood City; www.redwoodcity.org. Free. Captain America: The Winter Soldier (Russo and Russo, 2014), Thu, 8:45.

EXPLORATORIUM Pier 15, SF; www.exploratorium. edu. Free with museum admission (\$19-25). "Off the Screen:" **Technicolor N.G.**, performance and talk by artists and archivists Walter Forsberg and John Klacsmann, Thu, 8. "Saturday Cinema: "Experimental Films by Kids from the Film-Makers" Cooperative," Sat. 1. 3.

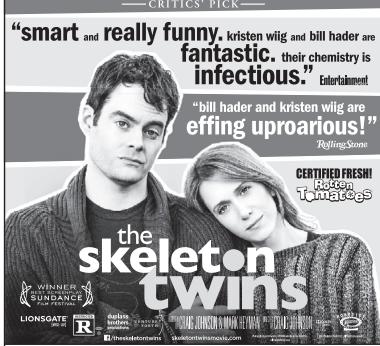
GOETHE-INSTITUT SF 530 Bush, SF; www.goethe. de/ins/us/saf/enindex.htm. \$5 suggested donation. "100 Years After WWI:" Majub's Journey (Knopf, 2013), Wed, 6:30.

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forpeace.org. \$10. Is the Man Who Is Tall Happy? (Gondry, 2013), Wed, 7.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE 57 Post, SF; milibrary. org/events. \$10. "CinemaLit Film Series: Critics Choice, Classic and Quirky Americana:" Bedside (Florey, 1934), Fri, 6.

PACIFIC FILM ARCHIVE 2575 Bancroft, Berk; (510) 642-5249, bampfa.berkeley.edu. \$5.50-9.50. "Alternative Visions:" "Films of James Broughton (1948-81)," Wed, 7. "Jean-Luc Godard: Expect Everything from Cinema:" Tout va bien (Godard and Gorin, 1971), Thu, 7; One P.M. (Pennebaker, 1971), Sun, 5; Letter to Jane: Investigation of a Still (Godard and Gorin, 1972), Sun, 7. "Eyes Wide: The Films of Stanley Kubrick:" **Lolita** (1962), Fri, 7:30. "James Dean, Restored Classics from Warner Bros.:

2014), Wed-Thu, 7, 8:45, "Frameline Encore:" Lady Valor: The Kristin Beck Story (Herzog and Orabona, 2014), Thu, 7. Free screening. **Memphis** (Sutton, 2013), Sept 19-25, 7, 9 (also Sat, 2; Sun, 3; no 7pm show Sept 25). This Ain't No Mouse **Music** (Simon and Gosling, 2013), Fri-Sat, 7, 9:30 (also Sat, 2:30, 4:30); Sept 21-25, 7, 9:15 (also Sun, 4:30). Musical performances and director in person Fri and Sat; visit website for details. **Microbirth** (Harman and Wakeford, 2014), Sat, 4:30. "Roxie Kids:" "Charlie Chaplin Shorts," Sun, 2. Free admission for kids under 12.

SMITH RAFAEL FILM CENTER 1118 Fourth St. San Rafael; (415) 454-1222, www.cafilm.org. \$6.50-\$10.75. Take Me to the River (Shore, 2014). Wed-Thu, call for times. This Ain't No Mouse Music (Simon and Gosling, 2013), Sept 19-25, call for times "Alec Guinness at 100." The Man in the White Suit (Mackendrick, 1951), Sun, 4:30, 7:30.

films.blogspot.com. Donations accepted. "Berkeley Underground Film Society:" Queen of Burlesque (Newfield, 1946), Fri, 7:30; "LOOP presents: "Cheap Thrills," burlesque shorts, Sat, 7:30; **The Blue Angel** (von Sternberg, 1930), Sun, 7:30.

Mission, SF: www.vbca.org, \$8-10, "Invasion of the Cinemaniacs:" Pietà (Kim, 2012), Thu, 7:30; Little Fugitive (Ashley, Engel, and Orkin, 1953),







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Amanda L. Ebey, Esq. (SBN 142370) LAW OFFICES OF AMANDA L. EBEY, P.C. 870 Market Street, Suite 782 San Francisco California 94104 Tel: (415) 989-8070 Fax: (415) 834-0964 Attorneys for Plaintiffs CARL BURKS, WILLIAM SHERMAN SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCIS CO. UNLIMITED JURISDICTION. CARL BURKS, WILLIAM SHERMAN, Plaintiffs, v. CHERYL TURNER LARON IASON LOWE DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, Case No. CGC 12-526368 STATEMENT OF DAMAGES FOR CARL BURKS TO DEFENDANTS AND TO THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD: PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 425.11 Plaintiff CARL BURKS hereby states as follows: (1) General damages as to and for CARL BURKS, as against all defendants, jointly and severally, consisting of but not limited to emotional distress, loss of home and community, stress, fear, worry, anxiety, humiliation embarrassment, loss of sleep, homelessness, exposure to housing deficiencies including but not limited to cold, faulty plumbing, inability to enter his home, improper and illegal housing, harassment, loss of rent-controlled apartment physical injuries including but

not limited to bruises and con-

tusions around his head and

upper torso, pain and suffering

loss of comfort and enjoyment,

caused by injuries described

in the amount uncertain but

in the complaint on file herein,

not less than \$350,000.00; (2)

Special damages as to and for

CARL BURKS, as against all de-

fendants, jointly and severally,

consisting of, but not limited to,

property damage, property loss

moving ex-penses, increased

rent, transportation expenses,

wages and medical bills in an

amount uncertain but not less

than \$350,000,00, (3) Punitive

damages as to and for CARL

jointly and severally, in the

amount of \$500,000.00.

EBEY, P.C. By:

Dated: December 14, 2012

LAW OFFICES OF AMANDA L

BURKS against all defendants.

loss of rent-controlled apart-

ment, past and future lost

Amanda L. Ebey Attorney for Plaintiffs CARL BURKS and WILLIAM SHERMAN. VERIFICATION I declare that: I am the Plaintiff in the within action: I have read the foregoing STATEMENT OF DAMAGES and I know the contents thereof: the same is true of my own knowledge, except as to those matters which are therein stated upon my information or belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct and that this verification was executed on December , 2012, in San Francisco, California.

CHERYL TURNER, LARON JASON LOWE, DOES 1 through 10. inclusive. Defendants. Case No. CGC 12-526368 STATEMENT OF DAMAGES FOR WILLIAM SHERMAN TO DEFENDANTS AND TO THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD: PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 425.11, Plaintiff WILLIAM SHERMAN hereby states as follows: (1) General damages as to and for WILLIAM SHERMAN, as against all defendants, jointly and severally, consisting of but not limited to emotional distress, loss of home and community, stress, fear, worry, anxiety, humiliation. embarrassment, loss of sleep, homelessness, exposure to housing deficiencies including but not limited to cold, faulty plumbing, inability to enter his home, improper and illegal housing, harassment, loss of rent-controlled apartment. physical injuries including but not limited to broken nose pain and suffering, loss of comfort and enjoyment, caused by injuries described in the complaint on file herein, in the amount uncertain but not less than \$350,000.00: (2) Special damages as to and for WILLIAM SHERMAN, as against all defendants, jointly and severally, consisting of, but not limited to, property damage, property loss, moving expenses, increased rent, transportation expenses, loss of rent-controlled apartment, past and future lost wages and medical bills in an amount uncertain but not less than \$350,000.00.(3) Punitive damages as to and for WILLIAM SHERMAN against all defendants, jointly and severally, in the amount of \$500,000.00. Dated: December 14, 2012 LAW OFFICES OF AMANDA L. Amanda L. Ebev

Amanda L. Ebey, Esq.

(SBN 142370)

LAW OFFICES OF

AMANDA L. EBEY, P.C

870 Market Street, Suite 782

San Francisco, California 94104

Tel: (415) 989-8070

Fax: (415) 834-0964

STATE OF CALIFORNIA CITY AND

COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO,

CARL BURKS, WILLIAM SHER-

Attorneys for Plaintiffs CARL

BURKS, WILLIAM SHERMAN

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE

UNLIMITED JURISDICTION.

MAN Plaintiffs

Attorney for Plaintiffs CARL BURKS and WILLIAM SHERMAN, VERIFICATION I declare that: I am the Plaintiff in the within action: I have read the foregoing STATEMENT OF DAMAGES and I know the contents thereof: the same is true of my own knowledge, except as to those matters which are therein stated upon my information or belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct and that this verification was executed on December ____, 2012, in San Francisco, California

WILLIAM SHERMAM Dated 12-20-2012 Aug. 27, Sep. 3, 10, 17, 2014

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO) CHERYL TURNER, LARON JASON LOWE, DOES 1 through 10, inclusive YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTA DEMAN-**CARL BURKS** WILLIAM SHERMAN

DANDO EL DEMANDANTE): NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self Help Center (www.courtinfo. ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www. courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must he paid before the court will dismiss the case. ;AVISO! Lo han dentro de 30 dias. la corte puede decidir en su contra sin esuchar su version. Lea la informacion a continuacion Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que processen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda

usar para su respuesta. Puede

encontrar estos formularios de

la corte y mas informacion en el

Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes

de California (www.courtinfo.

ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol/), en

la biblioteca de leyes de su

condado o en la corte que le

pida al secretario de la corte

que le de un formulario de

quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion

Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueido, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia. Hay ostros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remision a abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un progama de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifor nia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/ espanol/) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales AVISO: Por lev la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por impone un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperacion de \$10,000 o mas de valor recibida mediane un acuerdo o una concesion de arbitrale en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravemen de la corte antos de que la corte pueda desechar el caso CASE NUMBER: (Numero del Caso): CGC-12-526368 The name and the address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es) Superior Court of California County of San Francisco 400 McAllister Street San Francisco, CA 94102 The name, address and tele phone number of the plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la direc cion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Law Office of Amanda L. Ebey PC. 870 Market St. Ste. #782 San Francisco, CA 94102 (415) 989-8070 DATE: (Fecha) 11/27/2012, Clerk, (Secretario), by Elias Butt, Deputy (Adjunto) NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served 1 as an individual defendant Aug. 27, Sep. 3, 10, 17, 2014

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